

VALLEY FARMER.

Monthly Journal of Agriculture, Horticulture, Education and Domestic Economy.
Adapted to the wants of the people of the Mississippi Valley.

VOL. V

ST. LOUIS, SEPT, 1853.

No. 9.

The Valley Farmer.

Personal—Our Journey.

We announced in the August number of the VALLEY FARMER our intention to visit some of the middle counties of Missouri during the months of September and October. At that time it was our design to go by land up as far as Independence, on the south side of the river, and return on the north side. But Mrs. Abbott's health is so feeble that it is not thought prudent to venture on such a journey. We have, therefore, abandoned this plan, and expect to travel by the river.

We design to leave St. Louis on the 8th of September and be at Lexington at the fair of the Jackson County Society on the 15th and 16th.—From there we think of going up as far as Weston and perhaps St. Joseph, returning in season to be at Columbia at the Boone County fair, on the 28th, 29th and 30th, stopping, either going or returning, if possible, at Arrow Rock, Glasgow, Brunswick, Miami, and Lexington. From Columbia we will go to the State Fair at Booneville, and after it is over, return home so as to attend the Illinois State Fair at Springfield, the week after.

The last week in October is the time for the fair of the Franklin County Society at Union, which we intend to attend, and if possible, go from there to the Callaway County fair at Fulton the next week, when we will endeavor to see some of our friends in Montgomery, Warren and St. Charles counties as we return.

This is the two month's work which we have cut out for ourselves. If health permits we shall endeavor to accomplish it, and we wish it borne in mind that our object in making these trips is to increase the circulation of our paper, become ac-

quainted with the farmers, and help to roll on the glorious cause of reform. We go not among the people as an adventurer, seeking to palm upon them new and untried notions, but as one who is known to them as an ardent, sincere and devoted friend to them, and their best interests. We feel that the time has now come when we can ask every friend of improvement to co-operate with us; and we hope they will do so. Our paper has an established character. Its permanency is beyond a doubt. It has hosts of professed friends through the State; let them now do all they can to increase its circulation, and as a consequence its usefulness.

In the course of these visits we shall, of course, come in contact with many of our subscribers—all of whom will know us, while we shall know but few of them. We wish them all to consider that we would like to take them by the hand and have a friendly chat with them.

Agricultural Fairs.

STATE SOCIETIES.

Missouri, at Booneville, Oct. 3, 4, 5, 6.
Illinois, at Springfield, Oct. 11, 12, 13, 14.
Kentucky, at Lexington September 13, 14, 15, 16.
Indiana, at Lafayette Oct. 11, 12, 13.
Ohio, at Dayton Sept. 22, 23, 24, 25.
New York, at Saratoga Sept. 20, 21, 22, 23.
Michigan, at Detroit Sept. 28, 29, 30.
Vermont, at Montpelier Sept. 13, 14, 15.
New Hampshire, at Manchester Oct. 5, 6, 7.
Pennsylvania, at Pittsburgh Sept. 27, 28, 29, 30.
Wisconsin, at Watertown Oct. 4, 5, 6, 7.
Maryland, Oct. 25, 26, 27, 28.
Virginia, at Richmond Nov. 1, 2, 3, 4.
Northern Fruit Growers Association, at Chicago Ill., Oct. 4, 5, 6, 7.
South Western Agricultural and Mechanical, at Louisville, Ky., Oct. 11, 12, 13, 14.

COUNTY SOCIETIES.

Boone county Mo. at Columbia, Sept. 28, 29, 30.
Franklin county Mo. at Union Oct. 28 and 29.
Monroe Co. Mo. at Paris Sept. 15, 16.
Jackson Co. Mo. at Independence Sept. 15, 16.
Morgan county Ill. at Jacksonville, Sep. 29 and 30.
Houman county Ky. at Paris, Sept. 27, 28, 29, 30.
Callaway Co. Fair at Fulton, Mo. 2, 3.
Johnson Co. Iowa, at Iowa City, 6, 12.
Dubuque county, Iowa, at Dubuque, Sept. 8 and 9.

State Fair.

We commend to the attention of all our readers in Missouri the following article from the Boonville Observer. It will be seen that ample arrangements are being made for an extensive display and a large collection of people. Every farmer and mechanic in the land should feel a personal interest in the success of the enterprise, and no man who has anything worthy of exhibition, should fail to have it on the ground. For once let us lay aside selfishness and work hand in hand for the glory of our glorious commonwealth. In a few years, when our internal improvements are completed, and the people generally are more awake to the benefit of these exhibitions, there will not be the same need of exertion on the part of the few who appreciate the importance of industrial improvement. Let us remember that this is a *State Fair*, and that the citizens from all parts of the State are alike interested in its success. Let us remember also that if we fail now it will be a long time before we shall recover from the backset which the failure will give us. But who said *fail*, or who has any thoughts that the Fair will be a *failure*? No one. The people of Missouri will never say *fail* in such a cause. They will not even say *We'll try*, but with one voice they will exclaim—*We will*.

From the Booneville Observer.

The Missouri State Agricultural Society will hold its first annual fair at Boonville commencing on the first Monday in October next. This being the first exhibition of the State Society; it should excite a spirit of emulation among our people, so as to render it worthy the State and the age.

The premiums offered are on a liberal scale and in the reputation they will give to the stock raisers and manufacturers, will be more than remunerative. The geographical position of Missouri, her manufacturing advantages, and the extent of her territory so well adapted to grazing, if properly appreciated and developed, would enable her to make such an exhibition as could scarcely be surpassed by any State in the Union; and although we cannot expect our first fair to come up to those of older States, yet time and attention, a spirit of competition, and a determination to excel,

will soon place our State Society and its exhibitions upon an equality with the more matured institutions of other States. Our Society should therefore be fostered, and its objects encouraged and promoted by all enlightened and enterprising citizens. From information already received, we are assured that the coming fair, in variety and quality of stock in its agricultural and mechanical features, and in most of its other departments, will surpass the anticipations of many of its most sanguine friends. The grounds purchased by the society, containing over four hundred acres, are situated on a high and airy bluff upon the river, immediately adjoining the city, and in every respect admirably adapted to the purpose.—Besides other attractions, Uriel Wright Esq., of St. Louis, will deliver the address to the society, and the fame of this accomplished orator, will greatly add to the interests of this occasion.

On behalf of the citizens of Boonville, we extend an invitation to the people of the State. They will receive a cordial welcome and will find ample accommodations for all.

Printing by Horse Power.

The *Columbia Statesman*, one of our very best exchanges, contains the following paragraph in relation to a horse power we sent him a short time since to run his printing press. This is the same power that we sell with the threshing machines, and we advise all wheat growers who may be at Columbia to call and see it. Our machines this season have given better satisfaction than ever, and from all parts we have received the most flattering recommendations, not only of the power and thrasher, but also of the combined Thrasher and Winnowing which has this season been presented to the farmers of the West. See Wheeler, Melick & Co's advertisement in our advertising department.

For several weeks past the power press on which *Statesman* is printed has been run by horse power. Convinced from an examination given the *endless chain horse power*, that it could be applied advantageously to printing presses and that it was much cheaper and therefore for a weekly paper better than steam, we ordered one from Wheeler, Melick & Co., Albany, N. Y., through Ephraim Abbott, Esq., agent, St. Louis. After several week's trial, we are prepared to give an opinion from experience of the result; and it is this—it works like a charm. The power is simple and regular in its motions and cheap;

and being propelled by a single horse occupies but eight by three feet space. We can easily print a thousand copies per hour upon it. The same power is now in common use in running wheat threshing machines, and could easily be applied and ought to be applied to a great variety of mechanical uses. All who have any curiosity to see ours can call at the office.

The Hollow Horn.

In the Jan. No. 1853, of the Valley Farmer, page 32, we published an article from the Boston Cultivator signed 'A Farmer,' in which he asserted that the disease is nothing more or less than inflammation of the liver and the overflow of the gall; therefore, no external application can possibly be of any benefit to the creature, but rather aggravate the complaint by increasing the fever in the part to which you make the application; and especially so, when you bore the horns and inject and rub in inflammable substances.

He then presents a cure which he says has never been known to fail, though tried in hundreds of cases, and in an experience of thirty years:

Take one peck of hen's dung, put it into a five-pail kettle, fill the kettle with water, boil until you can squeeze out but two quarts of the juice, with which drench the beast one quart at a time, allowing twenty-four hours between each dose, and the work is done and the animal cured.

To this 'A Stock Raiser,' writing to us from Jackson Co., and whose letter was published in the March No. 1853, page 34, took strong objections.

We find in the Boston Cultivator of a late date a communication from Wm. Blunt, of Osterville, Mass., in which he says:

Now, the purport of the present communication is to inform your readers, that having another cow affected in the same way at the commencement of last winter, and which from experience I knew would never recover, I was tempted to try his recipe, which I was careful to prepare and administer with the greatest exactitude and caution, but not until the first week in June last, as I had no faith in its virtue; but which had an immediate and remarkable effect, the cow recovering almost as by miracle, being at the present time in perfect

health, gaining strength and flesh, and yielding a quart of milk daily, in addition to her customary quantity. I wish therefore to return 'A Farmer' my best thanks for his advice.

Belleville, Ills.

We paid a short visit to this flourishing city on the first Monday in August to visit a few friends there and also to attend a meeting of the farmers, called for the purpose of organizing an Agricultural Society. Getting into one of Case & Co's Omnibuses we were quickly carried over a smooth macadamised road to our destination. On our way we passed through Illinois town—not much yet, but wait till the railroads—the Belleville and Illinois town, the Ohio and Mississippi, and the Alton and Illinois town, perhaps—are finished and in use, and then see how soon those sand heaps and mud holes will give place to handsome streets and stately edifices. The American Bottom—the richest garden spot in all the world and yet the receptacle of more miasm, dampness and rank decaying vegetable matter than any other—will it ever be subdued—the swelling floods of old Father Mississippi be fereed out from it, and its stagnant pools and lakes be dried up, and made to yield their strength to the production of useful vegetation? Few persons are aware of the extent of the American Bottom. Commencing just below Alton it stretches down to the mouth of the Kaskaskia, in some places eight or ten miles wide, in others contracting to three or four. Its soil is just as rich as the decayed vegetation of a thousand years, added to all the rich deposits which the annual overflow of the river has brought to it can make it. Much of this land has been cleared and cultivated and there are many good farms upon it, but the dwellers here are annually exposed to the danger of a freshet which may sweep away all their improvements, and not unfrequently their cattle also. But so productive is the soil there that the inhabitants say they can afford to be washed out every seventh year, and yet make money faster than any where else.

The road to Belleville passes through this bottom for more than half the distance there, when it goes up the bluff and for the balance of the way we have highly cultivated farms on either side of us.—Nearly the only crops we saw growing in the bottom were corn and potatoes. The former is cultivated in a great measure to supply the market of St. Louis with 'roasting ears'—as they are called in the *patois* of St. Louis, and the latter are raised in immense quantities both for this and the southern markets. Watermelons are also raised in immense quantities in the bottom. Small grains we are told do not do well, the ground being too rich.

Belleville has increased in size wonderfully since our visit there eleven years ago, and bids fair to be one of the most flourishing inland towns in Illinois. It will soon be connected with St. Louis by railroad, and in several directions they are building plank roads into the adjoining county to secure the trade of the rich farmers around them. Large quantities of flour are manufactured here, and of an excellent quality. There are also quite a number of other manufactories, including Cox & Roberts' establishment for the manufacture of Horse Powers and Threshing machines which gives employment to a large number of hands, and sends out annually several hundred machines. We had not time to visit their establishment, which we regretted. We did visit Rentchler's shop for the manufacture of Pennock's Grain Planter, and found 'Jacob' at home and prepared to furnish any quantity of his valuable implement to the Wheat Growers of the West. We noticed several fine buildings in the process of erection, and were highly delighted with the appearance of thrift and prosperity which pervaded all departments of business.

After dinner we went to the Court House where we found the farmers of St. Clair in attendance—having organized their meeting before we came in. The 'Old Ranger' was addressing the meeting in his usual effective and off-hand style, every word of which seemed to tell upon the audience.

His remarks were to the point, and showed that he understood the subject that he was talking about, and also understood how to tell what he knew. But we shall never forgive him for the manner in which he introduced us to the people—his *good looking friend!* We can't stand that.—Had he said of us as another valued friend in the Sucker State did after his first interview, that we might perhaps be clever—for ugly folks generally were, and we were ugly enough certain, we could have forgiven him, but to be called goodlooking, we can't abide it.

A Society was organized under very flattering auspices, the full account of which we copy from the *Belleville Advocate*—the Editor of which paper took hold of the matter with a hearty good will, and in a short but convincing speech, impressed the importance of the subject upon the people.

Fruits and Insects.

We find in the *Farmer's Monthly Visitor*, an account of a discussion by the Hillsboro' (N.H.) County Agricultural Society, reported by Rev. A. G. Comings, in which some very interesting statements were made. Considerable attention was given to a worm which appears to be doing great damage in N. England, tho' we have not heard of him out here. We hope he may be an exception to the practice of most travellers now-a-days, and that he will not make a trip to the West. There is considerable difference of opinion, whether the worm in question is the canker worm, the palmer worm, or the army worm. Mr. Holbrook thought the worm appeared to answer the description of the canker worm; and Mr. Hobbs thought it did not, but that it was the army worm. From the description we think Mr. Hobbs is mistaken, as the army worm is particular what it feeds upon, and we never heard of an instance of its biting human flesh as this worm is represented as doing. Neither do we think Judge Potter's 'recollections' right: that the army worm can throw himself from tree to tree, and thus travel from place to place.

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It was stated that the head of the worm was similar to the head of the curculio worm. There was five times the speed in these worms that there was in the curculio worm. The curculio goes where the plums are upon the tree; and upon trees not bearing fruit there were few. The worms were on the quince bushes, and on oaks and forest trees. Much damage is being done to the newly set shade trees, by worms.

Mr. Hildreth, of Westford, Mass., editor of the *Middlesex Farmer*, gave his experience in raising strawberries. He believed he could make more profit in raising fruit than he could in raising corn and potatoes. He raised five hundred boxes last year, on less than half an acre, averaging about 15 cents per box. For strawberries he plowed ten inches deep, set them in rows which were two and a half feet apart, and then plants about ten to fifteen inches apart in the rows. He used Boston Pine and Hovey's Seedling: one quarter of the former, and three quarters of the latter. He manured at the rate of about fifty cart loads to the acre.

Mr. Daniel Clark, of Manchester had raised about three bushels of strawberries from a spot of ground about 45 feet by 20.

Mr. Clark was in favor of spring transplanting in this country, for most all trees and plants. He had found that the spring was the best time for tree planting in a light sandy soil. He had taken evergreen trees just at the time they were beginning to form new wood, and they did well. He had a pear tree which he had set in the spring, which seemed dying after transplanting, and he saved the tree by winding it with a rope of green grass, from the ground to the limbs. He had some large pear trees set this year, and mulched the bodies as well as the roots.

Mr. Clark had only one way to get rid of the curculio, and that was, to catch him and kill him. The question had been agitated whether the curculio flies. He had caught them flying. He had taken a large sheet, with an opening on one side to admit the tree, spread it under the tree, shook them down and then carried them to the

stove, where he could burn and destroy them. He had discovered that some kinds of plums were more assailed than others.

Judge Potter said that Mr. Leavitt, in his Farmer's Almanac, gave a remedy for bugs, which was to express the juice of Bean Leaves, and sprinkle the bugs, and then pinch their heads off. And it is possible that this may be the only effectual remedy against the curculio; but still he was of the opinion that there were other remedies. Let all of the proposed remedies be tried, and hold fast that which is good. An experiment had been tried in a garden in this city last year, for expelling the curculio; and this year the same was being tried in various places, and in some of them at least, with success. This remedy was to syringe the trees, when fruiting, with a solution of *Sal Ammonia* and soap, and water, in the proportion of 1 oz. *Sal Ammonia*, one pint of soft soap, and three gallons of water. This preparation was to be applied two, three or four times a week. Its effect is the same as that of an ill flavored apple upon the lips of a school boy,—he will never club that tree for an apple again. So of the curculio, let him but put his *proboscis*, or *borer* into this solution and he will bite no more plums upon that tree. In some instances, where plum trees stood in paved around, they were free from any injury from them. This fact shows that the grub of the curculio, descends to, and into the ground, and thence pass into the tree, and that paving beneath the tree to prevent their burrowing and growing in the ground, will prevent their ravages, by preventing their production.

Mr. Mitchell had put the curculio in a bottle of *gas tar*, and he lived twelve hours there and when let out he flew away. He steeped some tobacco as strong as he could, and he put one under this water for at least a minute, and being let out he flew away. He had dropped a drop of corrosive sublimate upon one and after keeping him twelve hours, upon being liberated he flew away. He had two hundred and twenty plum trees and he did not expect to get a single plum.

How much Pork will a bushel of Corn make.

MR. ABBOTT.—In the June number of the *Valley Farmer*, on page 195, a question is asked—'How much pork will a bushel of corn make?' This I consider an important question, and one that all farmers ought to be able to answer. A knowledge of what it requires to produce a given quantity of any article raised by farmers is absolutely necessary, in order to enable them to make a correct estimate of the profits of their labor. By ascertaining the amount of food, of the different kinds, it requires to raise and fatten stock of all kinds, that is raised by the farmers of the Mississippi Valley, we are enabled to judge whether it is more profitable to raise stock at a given price, or hemp and tobacco. The amount of labor to raise any, and all of the various articles that are raised by farmers is easily ascertained; and it is impossible for any one to be a successful and thrifty farmer without a knowledge of what it costs to raise the various kinds of produce, either by actual experiment or close and accurate observation. I will now answer the question by giving the result of an actual experiment, which is the only way of obtaining correct information.—Some years ago I was desirous of obtaining information as to the best and most profitable way of fattening hogs. I inquired of my neighbors and friends, and found some in favor of close floored pens, and others large dry lots; and as to the amount of pork a bushel or barrel of corn would make, their opinions were as various as their countenances. I was just beginning to farm, and as I was desirous of knowing the best way of fattening hogs, I determined to try the different plans, and also how much pork a barrel of corn would make. I made a floored pen and covered it in. Weighed three hogs and put them in the pen. I also weighed three of the same size and put them in a dry lot;—average weight 175 lb. I fed six barrels of corn to the six hogs. They were forty days eating the corn—with a plenty of salt and

water. Their average gain was 75 lbs.; The hogs in the lot gained the most. One that was fattened in the lot gained 88 lbs. One in the pen gained 84 lbs.; the other four were not so thrifty. These hogs were about fourteen months old when slaughtered. I put them up the 25th of October. There was a good deal of sleet and snow during the month of November, which gave the hogs in the pen an advantage they would not have had had the weather been favorable; they eat the same quantity of grain in the same time. This experiment gives a decided preference in favor of the lot. It also shows that one bushel of corn will make 15 lbs. of pork; and that the six barrels of corn made \$11 25 worth of pork, at 2 1-2 cents per lb.; and that the farmer gets 12 1-2 cents for his labor of feeding per bushel, over selling at 25 cents per bushel.

Hogs will fatten faster in September and October than they will in colder weather. A few years ago I fed one barrel of corn to a very fine Berkshire hog that was about thirty months old, (shortly after being castrated) in the months of August and September, and he gained 97 pounds in 35 days, which was the length of time he was eating the barrel of corn. He ran on a clover lot, which was of great advantage.—This last experiment is considerably over an average, and would not hold good with common hogs. From the above experiment it will be seen that 3 2 3 lbs. of corn, supposing the corn to weigh 55 lb to the bushel, will make one lb. of pork. Mr. Arnett, as quoted from the *Genesee Farmer* thinks five pounds of corn will produce one of pork! 'this -think' of Mr. Arnett's will not hold good with an experiment. Subsequent observation has satisfied me that the forgoing experiment, as detailed, will do to practice upon.

Another very important question, or inquiry suggests itself from the foregoing; and that is, what is it worth to raise hogs to the average weight of 175 lbs. A correct answer to this question, based on actual experiment, would be of great importance to farmers. To value the grass, clover and

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5 lbs. One
38 lbs. 200 lbs. is scarcely susceptible of being
other arrived at by experiment; yet with these
were assistants I can raise a hog to weigh 175
ghter lbs. and over, with one barrel of corn. It
tober will be seen from these estimates, that two
snow barrels of corn, with the advantage of grass,
gave clover and grain fields, will produce about
they 200 lbs. of nett pork, or 250 lbs. gross.
been Estimating the corn at 25 cents a bushel,
y of this would give the farmer \$2 50 for his
ment grass, clover, grain, fields, capital stock and
of the his labor. To sell corn at 25 cents a
corn bushel is very unprofitable business, when
e six we take into consideration the wear of the
pork, land; and pork at \$2 50 per hundred is a
mer very slow business. If we take into ac-
ding count the absolute necessity of clovering
per our land, and raising small grain in order
and to keep up and improve it. I have no hesi-
her. tation in saying that it is better for the far-
n to mer to raise pork at \$2 50, than to sell
out corn at 25 cents per bushel.

Hogs do best in large fields with plenty of water, and the farmer who cuts up his corn in the month of September and October, and hauls it out on his fields, will be amply paid for his labor in the improvement of his land from the stalks, and manure of the hogs. It is a great saving of labor to turn the hogs in the field, when the quantity of hogs and size of the field suit.

I have extended my communication much farther than I intended, yet I hope it may prove of interest to your readers.

W. M. JACKSON.

Fayette, Mo., Aug. 10. 1853.

For the Valley Farmer.

French Hen-house—Improving Prairie Grass.

While I have my pen in hand I will contribute my part towards your journal. It is nothing scientific; I am yet too young and inexperienced to attempt that. I wish merely to tell you about a thing I have seen in use in the west of France, and which, I believe, is little known here.

It is concerning a Hen-house, which is very simple in its construction and answers

well the purpose for which it is designed. Take a log, about twenty feet long, and a foot in diameter; set this firmly in the ground, say four feet. On the top fasten an old wagon wheel, (a hind wheel) stripped of the iron, which is of some value. From the centre of the hub, which rests on the top of the log, raise another post, about three and a half feet high. This will form the summit of the roof, and the circumference of the wheel the base. This roof may be formed of thatch or clapboards, allowing the eaves to project at least a foot. The hens will roost upon the spokes; and to enable them to get there, it will be necessary to make a kind of ladder, of pins, driven into the post. The pins should be about 18 inches long, and placed spirally around the post.

One of the advantages of this Hen-house is, that it guards against all animals of prey except cats. The manure is collected around the base and is there kept tolerable dry; and rats may be guarded against by covering the post for a foot or two with tin. Boxes may be placed in the house for hens to lay in.

Three or four of these Hen-houses may be seen around a farm house in the west of France, and I assure you these gigantic umbrellas give to the landscape a beautiful and picturesque effect. Let me add that to guard against the violence of storms it will be necessary to make the work as strong as possible.

I should be pleased if some of your subscribers, who have tried the experiment, would give me some information upon the following point. Does continual mowing or pasturing the prairie have a tendency to improve the quality of the grass for hay? and does the application of animal manure or mixed composts, or minerals, especially the carbonates and phosphates of lime, warrant the expense; and what kind of manure would they recommend? I have seen in France most wonderful effects from the use of slacked lime upon the natural meadows? Would it produce the same effects here?

H. J. K.
 Highland, Ills.
 H. J. K.
 Highland, Ills.

For the Valley Farmer.

**Salt for Stock—Early Times in Mo.—
Plows—An old Farmer's Skill—The
Potatoe Rot—Native Stock—The Sea-
son and Crops.**

Danville, Montgomery Co.,

Mo., Aug. 20, 1853.

MR. EDITOR:—I again take the liberty granted in your valuable paper. I am of different opinion from some of your contributors, in regard to salt for stock. All wild animals are fond of salt, and I think you cannot keep an animal healthy or fatten without it.

You may guess I am acquainted with the wilderness. I came into this territory in 1819—as early as Col. Benton—from the south-east side of the Blue Ridge, in Va., to Jackson county, Mo. Our road through Western Virginia, Tennessee, Kentucky and Illinois lay through an unhabited region; often for a hundred miles not a house would be seen but the Indian wigwam. I had only one neighbor within eight miles. Will lived with the Indians as Penn did, all friendly, and never lost anything by them.

I believe chess does come from wheat, and that I can make any ground that will produce wheat bring chess, no matter how clean the ground and seed are.

I am now over seventy years old, but can stock my own plows, make my harrows, rakes, double and single trees, hames, collars, axe, hoe and mattock handles, and can now show a door shutter made in 1817, without a single nail, pin or plank, as there were no such things to be had in the woods. It has been in constant use ever since.

As a farmer I have felt much interest in the discussion concerning the potatoe rot, and I say to you now, as I said to the *Republican* some time since, that this disease is caused by unnatural forcing of the plant by means of stimulants and so called fertilizers. The potato is a native of the forest, and made perfect, as is everything else. While in the virgin soil it was sound and sweet, but when the boast of the present day, improvement, got hold of it, then art

and science brought on the rot and destroyed the potato, as it has many other things, by the poison put in as fertilizers. By the same cause, corn, wheat and all grains, as well as trees, vines and plants, can be changed so that their products will be poisoned. The remedy is at hand—go down to mother earth and get virgin soil to overbalance the pernicious matters put on the top. I never saw the potato rot in the primitive earth.

It is my opinion that our own native stock can be as much improved here at home as abroad. It is all foolishness to go abroad for fine cattle, or stock of any kind. Every thing about us can be improved, from the farm itself down to the chicken.

We have had fine rains in this section, and our crops look very promising. To the north and east of us, however, they do not look quite as well. Health generally good. Tell the farmers to take their places in the front row, and keep them. They have no business with humbugs.

Your most obedient serv't, CANDID.

For the Valley Farmer.

Richmond, Osage, Co. Mo.

MR. EDITOR—Having been for some time a subscriber to your valuable periodical, and feeling a deep interest in the progress of agriculture, I take this opportunity of soliciting information through its columns. The subject I wish to be informed on is, the best manner of treating clover ground for wheat. I wish to know whether it is best to plow it in August and let it lay until seeding time and sow it just as it is and harrow it in, or plow it again before it is sown. Also whether it is best to manure before 'breaking' the first time, if plowed twice, or to manure on the wheat in the winter. If any of the numerous readers of the Farmer can give me the desired information they will greatly increase wheat crops in this part of the country. Scientific wheat farming being but little known, and book farming not in good repute until some time last winter, a club was gotten up, and now the spirit of inquiry is aroused.

Yours, A FARMER OF OSAGE.

For the Valley Farmer.

MR. EDITOR.—I think the following worthy a place in the *Valley Farmer*. It is the conclusion two of my neighbors came to in a conversation:

Caleb.—How did your wheat turn out, William?

W.—It is the last crop of wheat I'll ever raise, unless I have better seed.

C.—It may be that it was a bad season for wheat.

W.—Why didn't my neighbors have bad, also?

C.—Well, it may be your land was not as good.

W.—Just as good sod as ever was turned

C.—Well, I would get seed from Miller.

W.—I wonder how he sells it.

C.—I heard him offer Brakess some for 80 cents.

W.—Well, Harvill told me he asked Doughty 75 cents.

C.—Then he has rose on it. His last St. Louis paper says wheat is high. (Here William turned his chair.)

W.—I wonder what it is selling at in St. Louis.

C.—I don't know, you can see by going over and looking at his papers. (Silence reigns; papers are useful.)

W.—If my wheat had been good I would have subscribed for a paper.

C.—What one would you get?

W.—I don't know. Do you know what papers Miller takes?

C.—Why, he takes the St. Louis Weekly News and the Peoria News, and I saw him with two other Peoria papers; but I think that some of his friends in Peoria send them to him.

W.—He takes the Valley Farmer, too, don't he.

C.—Yes, he does, I didn't think of it. (Silence again.)

W.—What kind of a paper is that Valley Farmer?

C.—Well, indeed, I don't know. Miller likes it very well.

W.—I know he does.

C.—You have'nt subscribed for it, have you?

W.—No.

C.—Did Miller ever try you; or try to get you to subscribe for it?

W.—Yes, he tried for an hour at the school house one day.

C.—Didn't you want to take it?

W.—Not then. I thought my wheat would be as good as any one's.

C.—Have you a notion to subscribe for it now?

W.—Well—I don't know—that is—I—I swore to Miller I didn't want his foolery, and it would tickle them to think what a fool I was.

C.—Perhaps you can get another just as good.

W.—Where is one?

C.—I don't know. I would go and see Miller; perhaps he can tell you where one is.

W.—How does he know where papers are published?

C.—Why, he takes papers and reads them and notes the advertisements

W.—Why don't you take a paper; you talk as if I ought.

C.—Why, I am not able.

W.—Do you believe Miller pays for his?

C.—Yes, I do.

W.—What makes you think so?

C.—He showed me the receipts.

W.—Well, how does he get the money, Caleb?

C.—Why you see if we were so stingy as not to chew tobacco or drink a little whisky, and not go to large parties, we might have them too. You heard old Cress say he had no whisky at his log rolling, and never takes any.

W.—Well, he don't make any thing by that.

C.—Yes he does tho', or he wouldn't be able to pay for his papers.

W.—Why, he is lucky.

C.—Well, what makes him so lucky?

W.—Why, he knows when to take things to market.

C.—No. You see he takes the papers and the price of produce is in them and he sees it, and knows when to sell. It is because he takes the papers.

W.—Well, it is getting late. Good night.

From the (Ohio) Dayton Journal.

Rail Roads—Fencing and Hedging with Osage Orange.

MESSENGERS. EDITORS: It is now pretty generally admitted that rail roads are of the first importance to the agriculturists of the great West; diverging, as they do, in every direction, thus affording all, almost equal facilities for getting their produce to market without paying an enormous expense for transportation, to which a large portion of the agriculturists of the west have been subject.

And now that the people of this great Mississippi valley are generally awake to this first matter of interest, it is proper that we should turn our attention to the next greatest matter of interest to us as agriculturists—and that we conceive to be the fencing of our farms.

It is well known that almost the entire surface of the earth of the great west is suited to cultivation, consequently, wherever a piece of ground is cleared off, it is immediately put under cultivation, thus constantly diminishing our resources for timber and wood.

In this particular we differ from many of the Eastern States, which have their swamps, barrens and mountainous regions, which will produce not only cedar, oak, pine, chestnut, &c., from which a comparative supply of timber is obtained. But we ask the question how shall the farmers of this great western valley keep up their fences? Some think we must make board fences, with oak or locust posts, and pine boards, and refer to the pine regions of the east, north and north west. But we think every reflecting man will be convinced, that, with increasing population and the consequent increasing demand for building materials for mechanical purposes, the supply from the above sources will not more than equal the demand for the purposes specified, leaving no wood material from that source for fencing. Various materials have been tried, such as stone, wire, composition, &c., but the stone fence is too expensive to be brought into general use—other materials do not seem to take, to any extent. Again different species of hedge plants have been tried with but little success. I refer, of course to the White Thorn, the English Hawthorn and the Buck Thorn, all of which have failed on account of the shallow tendency of their roots (not being able to stand the severe droughts to which our climate is subject.) the want of a vigorous growth, and the liability to be injured by insects.

In view of these facts, we might almost come to the conclusion, that whilst God had provided all the materials and elements that were necessary to subserve our interests, in

every other respect, the material for accomplishing this great work, namely the enclosing of our farms, was lacking. But this is not the fact; for we have it demonstrated by all that surround us in the natural world, that 'God hath done all things well,' and that the material for enclosing our farmer's lands, like the elements of steam and electricity. God in his wisdom has been pleased to call into exercise the mental and physical powers and energies of man, in order to their discovery and development. The Osage Orange is the hedge plant we refer to. We believe it is the material that God has designed should meet our wants in this respect. Its success has been demonstrated beyond doubt; and in order to bring it into general use, all that is necessary is to apply the same skill and energy that has been put forth in developing and bringing into general use, Steam, and Electricity, and the various arts and sciences that have been so rapidly progressing for the last half century. We have in its favor the testimony of such men as the lamented J. A. Downing, Sr., Professor Turner, of Illinois College, Dr. J. A. Warder, of the Horticultural Review, Cincinnati, M. B. Bateham of the Cultivator, Columbus, and writers for the Genesee Farmer, the Valley Farmer, St. Louis, and of almost all the agricultural and Horticultural periodicals of the land. In fact, we think with a writer in the Valley Farmer, that the Osage Orange has no enemies, except those that have little or no knowledge of it; whilst upon the other hand, all that have tried it, and taken any care of it, are perfectly delighted with its success.

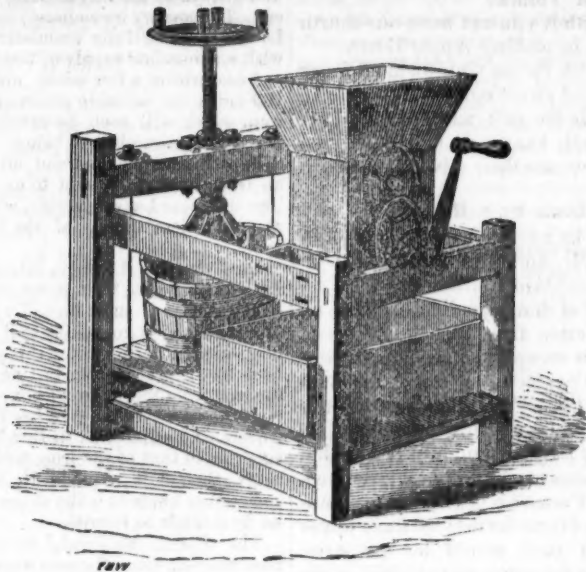
J. M. GREEN,

Alexandersville, Ohio, July 25th, 1853.

Profits of Sheep Raising in New Mexico.

We give the following statement, on the authority of a gentleman well known to us, showing what may now be done in the business of sheep farming in New Mexico:

Senor Ignacio Micara, of Algodones, on the Del Norte, about 40 miles south from Santa Fe, sold this year to Mr. Bernidet, of the Moro, the product of a flock of 1,000 ewes, for something over \$2,275. His ewes yielded him over 1,300 lambs, for which he got \$1.75 a head, when nine months old. The actual cost of putting these lambs into market can be known only by taking into view the average annual expenses of keeping up his whole stock of sheep, and estimating the total product. But it is supposed that the cost of these lambs, if set down at \$300, would be overestimated. There is now probably no part of the United States of equal extent, which is so well adapted to sheep husbandry as New Mexico.

HICKOCK'S PATENT IMPROVED CIDER MILL.

This machine is made to run by horse, steam or hand power, and when the apples are ground, a small boy of 14 years of age can press them with all ease.

In former times it was supposed that a large quantity of Cider could only be made by using a ponderous machine, that slowly crushed the apples without grinding them fine. They were then made into a massive cheese in straw, and a most severe and long pressure was required to extract a portion of the cider, a considerable quantity being absorbed by the straw and the mass of pomace; and to obtain this unsatisfactory result, the farmer had to take all his hands, and perhaps his six horse team, and devote a whole day, that might have been more profitably employed, to make from six to eight barrels of cider. To obviate the difficulty the farmers have heretofore labored under, this machine has been invented.

The apples are, by this machine grated up into a fine pulp, so that it requires but a comparatively light pressure, and that but a minute or two, to extract all the cider; it being ascertained by practical experiment, that one-fourth more juice can be obtained than by the old process. Be-

sides this, it only requires two hands to grind up and make into cider a larger quantity of apples than can possibly be done on the old fashioned machines. On this press, owing to the compactness of the pomace in the tub, and the complete manner in which it is ground, a pressure of from three to five tons—which can easily be obtained—will produce a more favorable result than fifty tons pressure on the ordinary cider press, even if the apples were ground as finely as on the improved mill; and if the apples were merely crushed, as on the Nut Machine, it would require a pressure of one hundred tons to produce the result accomplished by this patent mill. The following are adduced by the Patentee as the decided advantages of the mill :

First—It will make more cider than any other press, with a given quantity of apples, in a given time, and with much less labor and expense.

Second—It will make clearer and sweeter cider than any other mill.

Third—You can make the cider as you want it, and when you want it, in quantities from one gallon to six or ten barrels.

Fourth—With it you can press your

Currants, Cherries, Berries, Cheese, Butter, Lard and Tallow.

Fifth—With it you can save one-fourth of your time in making Apple Butter.

Sixth—With its use you can at all times have fresh and sweet cider.

The mill is for sale wholesale and retail by Wm. M. PLANT & Co. St. Louis. For price, &c.; see their advertisement.

St. Louis by a Buckeye.

A few weeks ago we were favored with a visit from Mr. and Mrs. Bateham, conductors of the *Ohio Cultivator*. In a recent number of that periodical we find an interesting letter from Mr. B. giving an account of his reception here, and his impressions of the place. We copy the main part of his letter. We thank our brother for the kindly manner in which he speaks of the *Valley Farmer*, and assure him that his good wishes are heartily reciprocated. The *Valley Farmer* is beginning to be appreciated, and from the first we have never doubted that such would be the case. Neither have we cause to complain of the people of the West in regard to it. Fully commensurate with its deserts has been its support from those who have been made acquainted with its merits, and if its success has not been quite as triumphant at once as might have been the case—it is because we preferred to go quietly to work and gain a good name for it before we made any very extraordinary efforts to force it upon the public.

We think Mr. B. does not fairly estimate the qualities of the June apple. When he was here it was hardly ripe, being some ten days to two weeks later than the Yellow or Early Harvest. When in its perfection it is of good size, bright red and very delicious—fully equal, we think, to the Harvest apple.

It will also be perceived that he is mistaken in regard to the State Fair, which is to be at Boonville instead of St. Louis.

The city of St. Louis is remarkable for its beauty of locality and commercial advantages, as well as its rapid growth and the enterprising character of its citizens. Being near the confluence of the Missouri, Illinois and several other navigable rivers, with the Mississippi, it is the centre of trade for an immense region of territory which is rapidly becoming settled and productive; and when the railroads now

in progress shall be completed, the business and growth of the city must be vastly increased. The country immediately surrounding St. Louis, is beautifully undulating and fertile, with an abundant supply of fine building stone and coal within a few miles; and within 70 to 100 miles are valuable mines of copper and iron, which will soon be extensively worked, now that railroads are being constructed to them. In one place, about 80 miles distant, an iron mountain is said to exist, something like that near Lake Superior, which will afford an exhaustless supply of the best quality of iron.

Our friend J. L. Gage, late of McConnellsville, O., who has been many years in the iron business, has recently started a foundry in this city with a view to casting rail car wheels as his principal business; for this purpose he has been for several months testing the quality of the iron from the different mines of this country so as to secure the *very best* for making his wheels, and he informs us that has found none superior to that of the iron mountain of Missouri, though it requires to be mixed with some other kinds to make as perfect an article as he intends to furnish.

The 'Pacific Railroad,' as it is called, is now running some distance westward from St. Louis, and we took a short ride on it *towards California*. It is not quite certain as yet that this identical road will be extended to the Pacific, but the citizens of this region are determined to have this the main trunk of such a road if possible, and at all events an important branch.

A State Agricultural Society has recently been organized, with an appropriation of \$1000 per year from the State treasury, to aid in defraying the expenses of Fairs; and it is designed to hold the first State Fair at St. Louis the coming fall; which from the spirit now manifested, we have no doubt will be quite successful, especially as it is proposed to invite competition from the surrounding States. Provision has also been made by the Legislature for a State Geological Survey, to be completed in two years, at an expense of \$20,000. This cannot fail to prove a great advantage.

The *Valley Farmer*, published monthly at St. Louis, has done much during the past four or five years to awaken a spirit of improvement in this region, though its support hitherto has not been at all commensurate with its merits. We found its editor (Mr. ANNOTT) in good spirits however, willing to persevere in his labors in the hope of a good time speedily coming; in which hope we trust he will not be disappointed. We also made the acquaintance of the editor of the *Missouri Republican*, (Col. CHAMBERS,) whom we had long known by reputation as an able advocate of improvements generally in the Great Valley. His pa-

per is now in its 31st year, and its broad pages present to the mind a graphic picture of daily life in this stirring city and the world at large.

Of Seed and Implement Stores there are several in St. Louis. The oldest and largest we believe is that of Messrs. PLANT & Co., the principal partner of which is an enterprising son of New England, and has filled his ample floors with every kind of new and valuable inventions pertaining to agriculture, that the Universal Yankee Nation has produced. He is at present much occupied in showing the Farmers how to use reaping and mowing machines, which are fast coming into use throughout this region and the entire west.

Horticulture does not seem to occupy much of the attention of the citizens here; most of them being too much absorbed in their business and speculation to find time for such recreations; though there are some exceptions, and first among these is THOMAS ALLEN, Esq., who had already become known to us for his devotion to this science, but who we were sorry to find was absent on a journey. The city markets appear well supplied with good vegetables and fruits, of which there is not as yet so great an abundance as with us, nor do we find as general a disposition to plant fruit trees among the farmers of this region as we should expect to see, now that the nurseries are to be found near almost every western city.

At the charming residence of Capt. Bissell, about four miles from St. Louis, we found a good apple orchard and fruit garden. Capt. B has devoted much time and attention to fruit culture, and treated us with the first ripe apples of the season, consisting of a Yellow Harvest and Carolina June varieties. The latter sort is not much known in Ohio as yet. It is a small, dullish red apple, of pleasant flavor, less acid than the Harvest, but not as large, and no earlier. Cherries do not thrive well here, excepting the Duke and Morello varieties—the trees of the larger or Heart kind generally dying, as in portions of Southern Ohio and Kentucky, by the bursting of the bark near the root. Pears grow well and bear freely, if not struck with blight; but this disease has become so common that but few persons plant them. Peaches grow rapidly, and bear well occasionally, but the crop is so uncertain that of late years few trees have been planted. This year the crop is quite full, and it may encourage planting again.

Messrs. SIGERSON & BROTHER have a large fruit farm and nursery about 7 miles from the city, which we visited in company with Mr. and Mrs. ABBOTT, Mrs. GAGE, (AUNT FANNY,) and one of the proprietors who lives in town. The road and the scenery were very pleasant, the company agreeable, and the premises more attractive and extensive than we had expected to

find. The whole farm comprises near 1,000 acres; about 100 of which is devoted to fruit orchards, some of it beginning to bear, and 50 acres more is a nursery well stocked with fruit and ornamental trees, many of them almost too large for sale. The business of this establishment has been quite extensive we learn, for a number of years past, although the proprietors have not made it as extensively known through the papers as we should think they would find it for their interest to do. They are gentlemen of high standing and integrity, and do not believe in long catalogues and windy advertisements, so much as in good trees and plenty of them, at fair prices. They have about twenty acres devoted to strawberries for the market; which they find quite profitable, having but little competition in the business, and realizing on an average \$1 per gallon for the fruit. There are about nine miles of Osage Orange hedge planted on this farm, some of it old enough to form a protection against cattle; and most of it well trimmed, though not sufficiently to render it as close near the ground as we should desire, where small animals are expected to run. One important object which is expected here to be secured by this kind of fence, is, to protect sheep from the attacks of dogs. We called the attention of Ohio sheep farmers to this subject a few years ago, and have no doubt that this mode of protection can be made perfectly effectual.

There are a number of extensive manufactories at St. Louis, but we have not time to speak of these, except to mention that most of the Castor Oil used in this country, and some others, is made here at the Oil & White Lead Works of the Messrs. BLOW, which we visited. The Castor Beans are produced mostly in Southern Illinois, and are sold here for about \$1.25 per bushel. Of course this business cannot be very largely extended, unless some new use should be discovered for the oil; and we learn that at the price hitherto given for the crop is not very profitable.

The Sugar Refinery of Messrs BELCHER & BROTHER, is the most remarkable manufacturing establishment in St. Louis, owing to the vastness of its business, and the amount of capital employed. Eleven years ago, we are informed, it turned out about 1,000,000 lbs. of refined and loaf sugars per year; and it has gradually increased until the present year it is expected to produce over fifty million pounds! This is mostly consumed in Ohio and the other South western States; and the effect of this establishment has been to materially reduce the price of sugars, especially throughout the west.

A Deep Artesian Well is being bored for Messrs. Belcher's sugar works, for the purpose of procuring a supply of purer water than that of the river or ordinary wells. This well has

now reached the extraordinary depth of 1750 feet, without fully accomplishing the desired object, and it is designed to continue boring till it reaches at least *two thousand feet!* The work is performed by a steam engine, attended by three men; and is continued night and day. The drill or sinker is 3 1-2 inches in width and the rods or poles are each 33 feet 4 inches long, attached together by screws. This well has already cost over \$10,000. A full stream of water issues constantly from the surface, which is strongly impregnated with salt and sulphur. Most of the boring has been through lime rock and shalld of different degrees of hardness. The rate of progress in boring is on an average about 4 feet per day. M. B. B.

St. Louis, June, 1853.

Raising Fruit from Seed.

Here is an article which expresses our views to a fraction. Situated as we are, between the North and the South, we have got to get up a class of fruits peculiar to our own latitude. We know that many of the fruits which are excellent two or three hundred miles north of us are worthless here, and the same may be said of some of the southern fruits. Let every person who reads this article resolve to plant some seeds this year, if it be but a few, and see what they will come to. We commend this subject particularly to the young people—the boys and girls, who in a few years will be the farmers and farmer's wives of the land. Plant apple, pear, peach, plum and cherry seeds now, as well as the different berries, and take care of them, and let them grow up as you grow up, and by and by when you come to leave your father's house for a house of your own, you can have a fine lot of young fruit at the start, far superior, we verily believe, to any that is now to be found in the country.

We know of no subject on which we can more profitably offer a few observations at this time of the year than that of raising fruit from seed. We are every year ransacking foreign countries for new varieties; we are not satisfied with what we have, and we never shall be. It is in the nature of man to seek for novelties; and it is well on the whole, that it is so. We shall not say a word against this; but we wish to commend to people's attention the abundant means which nature has placed within our reach to produce new varieties here, at home on our own soil.

Shall we neglect these? We hope not.

There seems, fortunately at the present time, a disposition in the public mind favorable to the improvement of home resources in a gardening sense, and the raising of seedling fruit is certainly one of the most important. Just enough has been already done to show what we can do, and afford us encouragement to proceed. Dr. Kirtland's Cherries, Dr. Brinkley's raspberries and many varieties of strawberries, all of much merit, are recent additions to our lists of fruits, raised from seed in the simplest manner, without any regard to the niceties of hybridization; so we can count upon fifteen or twenty first rate American seedling pears, and every locality can boast of its favorite and peculiar seedling apples; some of which, and indeed many of which have a national reputation, all grown from chance seedlings.

Now, in fruit growing it is of the highest importance that every man cultivate such varieties as are best adapted to his soil and climate. One of the great problems which pomologists now-a-days are endeavoring to solve relates to this very point. As botanists have divided the surface of the earth into zones of vegetation, each of which is characterized by a peculiar flora, by the prevalence of certain trees, and shrubs, and plants, that flourish there, and there only; so in fruit culture it is believed necessary to map off this great country of ours, embracing such a variety of climate, into pomological zones, in each of which certain fruits will succeed better than elsewhere. On this pomological chart, which our American Pomological Society, if we live and thrive, will one day appoint a commission to draw up, we shall see clearly defined the exact limits of successful cultivation of our Bartlett's, Seckles, and Virgalieu's, our Newton Pippins, Baldwins and Spys; and this will certainly be a most interesting and valuable map; but it may be a long time yet before it be completed, or before we shall have collected the great mass of facts and statistics which the execution of the work will demand.

Meantime, we must urge upon fruit growers, both professional and amateur, every man or woman, every boy or girl, who can obtain seeds of fine fruits to plant them and rear them into bearing trees. We think it scarcely admits of a doubt but that this is the true way—we had almost said the only way to obtain varieties completely adapted to all local circumstances; we can read this plainly in the history of nearly all our native fruits. As a general thing, their culture is most successful in the region of their origin. Some, like certain genera of plants, are confined to narrow limits beyond which they do not appear to prosper; others admit of a greater diffusion, and adapt themselves to greater variety of circumstances.

We find the most forcible illustration of this in the case of northern and southern fruits.

The Fameuse, Pommergrise, and some other apples of the north, are best in the cold latitudes, and fail as they go south and become worthless before they reach the Mississippi. So with southern fruits; like the Rawles' Janet, Tewksbury, Winter Blush, &c., that succeed only where the seasons are very long, and are entirely worthless in the north, where the spring opens about the first of May and autumnal frosts come as early as the first of October. We believe that the Porter and Baldwin are nowhere so good as in Massachusetts; the Newton Pippin is best on Long Island and the Hudson; the Spitzenburgh in New York, &c.

Aside from the unquestionable facts of the case, it is clearly natural that this should be so. A variety springing up from seed in any given locality, is, in the course of its production, endowed with a constitutional vigor and habits adapted to that locality in a particular manner—just as men are more at home in the climate and mode of life of their native country than in any other, and are, in a measure, proof against local diseases that strangers would immediately fall victims to. This is all in strict conformity to the wise harmonious laws that regulate and govern all human Nature, animate and inanimate.

Now, we are an impatient people—a 'fast' people; to use a current term—and we are quite loth to engage in anything that does not promise immediate results. Our young men now-a-days greatly prefer hazarding their lives for the chance of securing a lump of California gold to working a fortune patiently but surely out of their paternal acres. To such people, raising new and fine fruits from seed, where, perhaps not more than one in ten thousand may be a prize, is a slow business, and anything we may say will probably fail to convince them that it is not quite so slow as they imagine. But we shall try, nevertheless.

Suppose, for instance, we wish to produce some seedling strawberries; we take the finest berries of the best kinds we can procure; they must be perfectly ripe; we either wash the seeds out of the pulp, or we crush the berries and spread out pulp, seeds and all to dry. We then sow either the clean seeds, or dried pulp and seed, in light earth, and by autumn we have nice plants. These we protect during the winter with a covering of leaves, and next spring we plant out in beds; the following season they will bear, and we will be able to see whether we have gained a prize or not. Raspberries, currents and gooseberries, are managed exactly in the same way, and will fruit in the same time. This is not a tedious process. Three years or four will enable us to arrive at some results with these small fruits, and very important fruits they are. Now it would take as long as this to raise a colt fit for market, and a first rate strawberry, current or

raspberry, is worth two or three good colts at least, and might be half a dozen.

Peaches are easily raised from seed, and come quickly into bearing. Every one knows how to raise peaches from seed. The fresh pits may be transferred at once from the pulp to the ground; and in three or four years it will yield fruit. Pears and apples are more tedious; but there is a way to manage these to obtain early results. Suppose now, in 1853 we collect seeds of the finest apples and pears; as we take them from the fruits we place them in sand or earth until we have done collecting; we then plant them in fine and well prepared earth. Next spring they will grow, and in the autumn of 1845 we shall have yearling plants. While yet in leaf we select the most promising subjects—such as show in their features the greatest degree of refinement; then, instead of waiting for these to bear, which would not happen for ten years perhaps, we graft or bud from them into bearing trees—dwarfs if we have them, and in two years or so we will fruit them. Plums or cherries are managed in the same way.

Now we think that no reasonable person who has patience enough to wait for the ordinary seed time and harvest, could call this a very tedious process. Aside from the advantages which it offers, the raising of seedling fruits is full of instruction and intensely interesting, as every one can testify who has given it a trial. We shall have more to say on this subject hereafter.—*Genesee Farmer.*

Portraits of Animals.

The *Boston Cultivator* speaks so truly our views in the following article, that we publish it entire, and wish it regarded as our answer to the interrogations of the Commissioner. The editor of the *Cultivator* is well posted in all that relates to stock, and his opinion in the premises has great weight in it:

We have received a circular from Hon. Chas. Mason, Commissioner of Patents, from which we make the following extracts:

'It has been recommended that this office shall cause to be executed for its next Agricultural Report exact portraits of the best breeds of our domestic Animals, designed after nature, and printed in colors, in a style equal to those in Hovey's 'Fruits of America,' with their history, pedigree, value for labor, milk and wool, their capability of taking on flesh or fat; and the localities for which they appear to be best adapted, or which they are known to thrive. For instance give a portrait and description of a perfect Durham bull, ox and cow; the same of a Devon, Hereford and Ayrshire, and an Alder-

ney; the best Spanish and French Merino, Silesian, Saxon, Cotswold, Leicestershire, and Southdown sheep, portraits of the Spanish and Maltese jack and jenny, the Arabian, Norman, Cleveland Bay, Morgan and other horses; and of the Suffolk, Essex, Berkshire, Chinese, and Neapolitan hogs.

'It is conceived that this would be of great advantage and utility to the Nation in establishing a standard taste in the minds of our planters and farmers, and would disseminate correct information in one of the most important as well as the most profitable branches in the whole range of American Agriculture.

'In case it should be decided to carry this project into effect, do you think that the owners of the animals which may be illustrated would be willing to furnish the original drawings at their own expense? If so, it would be proper to take a daguerreotype of each animal in order to aid the artist in determining the size, proportions, and perspective of the portraits, which afterwards should be colored after nature.'

Although we regard the object brought forward in the above extracts as highly laudable it appears to us that there are difficulties in the ways of its accomplishment. For instance what course shall be taken in reference to the selection of animals to represent the respective breeds? Every one who owns stock will probably be desirous of availing himself of the advertising medium offered, and will seek to have the public believe that his own animals are the best of their kind. In the next place how shall their portraits be taken? We have but few correct delineators of animals in this country. We have had many pictures, but few portraits. Even in England the figures that are given in the Herd-Books, convey, in many instances a very incorrect idea of the originals. This will be acknowledged by all who have had opportunities of comparison.

But it is suggested that the animals should be daguerreotyped. We have seen many attempts to take animal likenesses in this way but have never seen a good one. In a few instances, a small animal, sheep, for example, has been so well taken that that the draughtsmen, knowing the defects, could make from the daguerreotype a tolerable correct portrait. But with horses and cattle the attempt, so far as we have seen, has been a failure. The parts of the animal are represented disproportionately. The head and some parts of the body are sometimes good, but the feet and legs are often too large—the figure as a whole showing a want of correspondence.

If all the animals taken to represent the various breeds; could be selected by impartial and competent judges, and their portraits

faithfully sketched and engraved, the proposed plan would be of great service; but without this it would be worse than nothing, as it would mislead instead of directing the public.

MARION COUNTY.—A Meeting of the citizens of Marion county was held at Palmyra on the 23d of July, to organize an Agricultural Society for that county. Anderson Brown Esq., was called to the chair and J. D. S. Dryden appointed Secretary. It was resolved to organize a Society and a committee of five was appointed to report to a meeting to be held Aug. 1st, a constitution for the same. The Editor of the *Hannibal Messenger* in writing upon this subject makes the following judicious remarks, which will apply to many other sections equally as well as to Marion, Ralls and Pike:

When we consider the wealth of the People of Marion, Ralls and Pike counties, the fertility of the soil which they cultivate, the superiority of their large herds of stock of all kinds, their great and growing importance, together with their enterprise as a people, we are surprised they have not long ere this established among them a well organized agricultural society. If we have accomplished so much without the aid of such a society what could be done with it? True, it is, that we have done much more without a society than many of our neighboring counties have with them, but that is no argument against their utility. A man who would be largely profited by stock raising must do two things:—first, he must raise fine stock, and second, he must make that fact known, in order to obtain a large price. How is he to make it known? By taking them to a fair and exhibiting them to the hundreds of stock raisers, and stock buyers, who always attend agricultural fairs. By offering suitable and liberal prizes, a desire to obtain them is at once created, and a commendable spirit of competition is aroused; not so much in consequence of the value of the prize, as because to obtain it will give credit and standing to their stock and reputation to themselves as stock raisers, and thus enable them to sell for a much larger price than they otherwise could have done. No man acquainted with these counties will assert that they are inferior to others, and yet other counties obtain better prices for stock. By means of their societies they invite and multiply the number of purchasers, and thus increase the price. And so it is with all agricultural products and implements. A well conducted agricultural society is of vast utility to any agricultural county.

Missouri Institution for the Blind.

We take great pleasure in giving place to the accompanying circular. Having visited the institution and witnessed the acquirements of the pupils; being certain that the superintendent and his assistants are well qualified for their situations, and having seen in other institutions of a like character, the incalculable benefits conferred in the case of near relatives and dear friends, we do most heartily and cordially commend this Institute to every parent or guardian of a blind child.

Strange as it may appear, we learn from Mr. Wheelan and his associates that there is in the minds of many parents of blind children a most unaccountable prejudice against sending their children to these schools. They prefer to keep their poor unfortunate offspring at home, growing up in the darkness of ignorance, as well as of body—thereby rendering them poor dependant creatures all their lives—to sending them where their minds and bodies will be alike cared for; to an institution where the rich treasures of science, and history, and poetry, will be opened to them; where they will be taught branches of useful industry, so that, if need be, they can gain for themselves a comfortable and respectable support, without the necessity of depending upon either public or private charity. Such things ought not so to be. No parent, from mistaken fondness, or unfounded prejudice, should be allowed to do his child such an injury.

[CIRCULAR.]

St. Louis, July 13, 1853.

DEAR SIR: By direction of the Trustees of Missouri Institute for the Education of the Blind, I take the liberty of calling your attention to the public charity under their care, and of asking your cooperation in making it more generally known. It is now permanently and well established, being supported in part by annual appropriations from the State, and partly by private subscription, and the Trustees are making arrangements for the erection of a large and commodious building, for which purpose an appropriation of \$20,000 was made by the last General Assembly. They now occupy a convenient house at the corner of Howard-street and Broadway, which is amply sufficient for the present demands and are prepared to receive ten or twelve pupils in addition to those already under their care.

The advantages offered by this Institution are as great as at any other of the same sort in the United States.—The Principal and Matron, Mr. and Mrs. E. W. Wheelan, are both thoroughly experienced and faithful in discharge of their duties, and parents may rest assured that no pains will be spared in the proper care and education of the children placed under their direction. The branches taught include all which is practicable for the blind to learn, consisting chiefly of Reading, (by means of raised letters,) Writing, Arithmetic, Vocal and Instrumental Music, plain and Ornamental Needle-Work, Bead and Basket Work, &c. In these different branches, the children make satisfactory progress, which would be almost incredible to those who have not witnessed it. A workshop has also recently been added, and those of suitable age have opportunity to learn trades, by which to earn an independent support.

Pupils are received at any age over six, and are provided with clothing, board and education gratuitously. But it is expected of parents and guardians to provide clothing and pay their board, either in full or in part when able to do so. Adult pupils are also received, and will be instructed, both in the school and the work-shop, in whatever branches they are competent to learn.

There is reason to believe that although this institution has been in full operation for more than two years, its existence is still unknown to a great many of those for whose benefit it is intended. The Trustees therefore take this means of asking your assistance in discharge of the duties devolved upon them. They are desirous of extending the advantages of the Institution to all those to whom they properly belong. You will greatly aid them and receive their cordial thanks, by contributing to enlarge their sphere of usefulness. If you know of any persons, totally or partially blind, will you be so kind as to extend to them the information herein contained, and encourage them to become inmates of this Institution.

Further information upon the subject may be obtained by addressing the Principal, Mr. E. W. Wheelan; or the President of the Board of Trustees.

I remain, very respectfully,

(By order of the Board,)

Wm. G. Eliot, Jun., President.

'Come, sonny, get up,' said an indulgent father to a hopeful son, the other morning—'Remember that the earliest bird catches the first worm!'

'What do I care for the worms?' replied the hopeful, 'mother won't let me go a-fishing.'

AMERICAN GRAPES—New Varieties.

Here is another article bearing upon the same subject as the one on page 318. We believe there are American Grapes, already growing wild in the Southwestern portions of this State and Arkansas, which only need to be cultivated with care and skill to produce a fruit every way superior to the Catawba or Isabella. We rejoice to learn that our old friend SIMPSON—who has resumed the management of the *Boonville Observer*—has determined to resume his investigations on this subject. He could not engage in a better work, and we may add that a better man for the work cannot be found in the State.

But we must have new varieties, and to get new varieties we must plant seeds of every kind and in every variety of soil. Who can say that we shall not yet produce a superior grape that will grow luxuriantly and healthily, and bear fruit unfaillingly in our rich bottom and prairie lands, as well as among the knobs and mountains of the Maramec and Osage?

From the Evening News.

We may be said to have, as yet, but two established and valuable American Grapes—the Isabella and the Catawba. These grapes are unsurpassed for wine, but not very good for table use. They are so well adapted to high northern latitudes, and the Catawba, especially, is very liable to rot. Too frequently, indeed, the Grape Crop is almost wholly lost by this fatal and almost unaccountable blight.

Under the greatly increased attention that is now bestowed on the grape culture in this country, we have reason to expect that new varieties will be discovered and brought out; harder than our present kinds, freer from blight and better for the table. Three years ago we saw at the Horticultural Festival, in this city, a new grape that we considered very superior. It was grown, if we remember rightly, by a Mr. Meyer of this county. Can any one tell us what has become of that variety, and how it has since approved itself?

We think all Grape Growers of Missouri should bestow as much attention as is consistent with their interest and profit, in experimenting on wild grapes and seedlings, with a view to improve the quality and increase the variety of American grapes. Not a bad idea it seems to us, would be to plant the seeds of Foreign grapes, the Chasselas, Black Hamburg, &c., &c., grow now so generally in vineries in this country. In this way, by de-

grees, the vine might perhaps become acclimated so as to grow in the open air and bear an improved fruit for the table over any known native grapes. At all events, let experiments go on. There is room for great improvement in American grapes. Let a spirit of inquiry and *progress*, be started and improvement is sure to follow.

We have a New York grape, called the '*Clinton Grape*,' spoken of and recommended as follows by a correspondent of the New York *Horticulturist*.

I have before me (January 25th) a bunch of the above desirable, long-keeping variety, as fresh and perfect as when it came from the vine. It has been cultivated in the vicinity of Rochester for the last twenty or twenty-five years yet it is but little known, although well worthy of a more general cultivation on account of its hardiness and productiveness. It is the grape for the north, where no other variety ripens. Even with us, (latitude 42 deg.) in backward seasons this is the only variety that attains complete maturity. I would particularly recommend it to the wine makers as worthy of trial. My opinion is that before many years it will be extensively cultivated as a wine grape. Judging from the character of its juice, the wine will require a longer time to ripen than that of the Isabella and Catawba, and will keep much longer than either. It succeeds well in all dry situations, and is entirely free from rot, to which the Catawba is particularly subject. It is a matter of surprise that the wine makers of the West, some of whom have been making such active search for native grapes, have not turned their attention to this variety. I have not seen it mentioned in any of their reports. I am informed however, that it is now in the course of being tested there, and that a quantity of grapes have been sent from this place to an eminent winemaker, to be tested as to their wine producing qualities. We may therefore expect a report soon.

The vine grows rapidly, and is propagated easily, striking more rapidly from cuttings than any other variety I know in the whole catalogue of popular native and foreign sorts. The shoots are slender and wiry, ripening so well as to acquire great firmness, and hence it is so hardy that the severe cold of a northern winter never affects even the softest parts of the young shoots. Wood—grayish brown, and short jointed. Leaves—small and thin, sharply serrated and unlike the Isabella and Catawba, which are usually turned backwards, they have more of a concave form. Bunches—small and compact, resembling much the Black Cluster. Berries—small to medium, black, juicy, with considerable pulp, rather acin when first gathered even though ripe. They improve by keeping, just as win-

ter pears will by house ripening, It is a prodigious bearer, and ripens in equal situations two or three weeks before the Isabella.

Points of a good Hog.

I would caution the reader against being led away by a mere name in his selection of a hog. A hog may be called a Berkshire or a Suffolk, or any other breed most in estimation, and yet, may in reality, possess none of this valuable blood. The only sure mode by which the buyer may be able to avoid imposition is, to make name always secondary to points. If you find a hog possessed of such points of form as are calculated to insure early maturity and facility for taking flesh, you may care little what it has seemed good to the seller to call him; and remember that no name can bestow value upon an animal deficient in the qualities to which I have alluded. The true Berkshire—that possesses a dash of the Chinese and Napoleon breeds—comes, perhaps, nearer to the desired standard than any other. The chief points which characterize such a hog are the following: 1. Sufficient depth of carcass, and such an elongation of body as will insure a sufficient lateral exposition. Let the loin and chest be broad. The breadth of the latter denotes good room for the play of the lungs, and a consequent free and healthy circulation, essential to the thriving or fattening of any animal. The bones should be small and the joints fine—nothing is more indicative of high breed than this; and the legs should be no longer than, when fully fat, would prevent the animals belly from trailing the ground. The leg is the least profitable portion of the hog; and we require no more of it than is absolutely necessary for the rest. 2. See that the feet be firm and sound; that the toes lie well together, and press straightly upon the ground, as also that the claws are even, upright healthy. Many say that the form of the head is of little or no consequence, and that a good hog may have an ugly head; but I regard the head of all animals as one of the very principal points in which pure or impure breeding will be most obviously indicated. A high bred animal will invariably be found to arrive more speedily at maturity, to take flesh earlier, and with greater facility, and, altogether, to turn out more profitably than one of questionable or impure stock; and such being the case, I consider that the head of the hog is by no means a point to be overlooked by the purchaser. The description of a head most likely to promise, or rather to be concomitant of high breeding, is one not carrying heavy bone, not too flat on the forehead, or possessing too long a snout: the snout should be short, and the forehead rather convex, curving upwards; and the ear should be, while pendulous inclining somewhat forward, and at the same time light

and thin. Nor should the buyer pass over even the carriage of the pig. If this be dull, heavy and dejected, reject him on suspicion of ill health, if not of some concealed disorder actually existing, or just about to break forth; and there cannot be a more unfortunate symptom than a hung-down, slouching head. Of course, a fat hog for slaughter, or a sow heavy with young, has not much sprightliness of deportment.

Nor is the color altogether to be lost sight of. In the case of hogs I would prefer those colors which are characteristic of our most esteemed breeds. If the hair be scant, I would look for black, as denoting connection with the Neapolitan; but if too bare of hair, I would be disposed to apprehend too immediate an alliance with that variety, and a consequent want of hardihood. If white, and not too small I would like them, as exhibiting a connection with the Chinese. If light or sandy, or red with black marks, I would recognize the Berkshire.—*English Farmer's Herald.*

Apple Trees Killed by Potash.

The New England Farmer mentions a case where an orchard or one hundred and sixty thrifty Baldwins were washed with a solution of potash of the strength of a pound to a gallon of water, which killed the whole of them in a few days. In all attempts to doctor seeds, plants, trees or animals, great caution should be observed. Guano is often used in a way that destroys the vitality of seeds; and in soaking wheat in brine, blue stone or copernis water, a similar disaster often results by steeping the seed too long. It is better to spread caustic ashes, guano and urine too sparingly than in excessive quantities, or in a too concentrated a form. First and last, we have used a good deal of liquid manure, and never add less than five parts of water to one of urine. A pound of potash to five or six gallons of water instead of one, will form a wash of sufficient strength to kill moss on apple trees, and probably the cotton aphid which so abounds at the South. The finest peach trees we ever saw in any part of our extended country were treated frequently to a wash of soapuds after the servants had washed the linen and other clothes for the week. Spent ashes from which soap has been made, and the refuse wash water are of great value as manures, and particularly to apply to the soil over the roots of all fruit trees. Many thoughtful, economical farmers at the North are careful to apply all soapuds and kitchen slops not suitable food for hogs, to their compost heaps, which is an excellent plan, for the alkalies in wash water, in all cases where soap is used, or ley, aids in rendering the silica in the straw, corn stalks, grass or weeds composted, soluble manure. The ob-

ject of composting coarse vegetables, is to break down their tissues, and render them unctuous, soluble mass. The caustic ammonia developed in purid urine, the alkalies in ashes and alkaline minerals, lime and magnesias, all extract oils from plants and favor their decomposition. D. LEE.

Origin of Soils.

In the last number of the Farmer we alluded to the fact that the *inorganic* ingredients of soils are derived from the mechanical attrition and decomposition of rocks which are exposed on the face of the globe. The crust of the earth is composed of stony bodies, differing in their structure and composition. Thus we have what geologists call *stratified* and *unstratified* rocks; and these are subdivided into primitive, transition, secondary and volcanic rocks. These include in their classification as well as composition, the granite, clay, slate, limestone, chalk, gypsum, quartz, &c.

Earths are therefore variously composed according to the rocks that have supplied the particles; and the fertility of soils depends in a great measure, on a *proper blending of these*. To illustrate this, let us imitate the natural formation of soil on a small scale.

First, then, we pulverize say a few pounds of sand rock or quartz, this will furnish the *silicious* or sandy element of the soil, but would be very unproductive of itself. We add, then, a few pounds of pulverized slate rock or field-spar, and get the *aluminous* or clay constituent; but still our soil is imperfect. We now add some pulverized lime rock, granite, &c., and by the combination find that we have silica, alumina, oxide of iron, potassa, magnesia and all the essential ingredients of a fertile soil.

In this process we have but imitated what nature has done for us. The primitive transition and secondary rocks have been, by upheavings and convulsions of nature, broken up, thrown on the surface, pulverized by friction, and acted on by air, water, frost, carbonic acid, &c., until they have been brought into a condition suitable for soils.

We have now laid the foundation for the study of soils. It does not require the analysis of the chemist to determine the predominance of some one or more of these elements. Some soils are composed almost entirely of *silica* or sand; others of *alumina*, or clay, while in others there is a good combination of all the elements we have mentioned. These latter are of course, the most *productive* soils.

But all these combined, only furnish the *inorganic* ingredients of soils, and without other constituents, would still be barren. All fertile soils are mixed more or less of the decomposed, organized matter afforded by dead plants and animals. This is termed the *or-*

ganic constituents of soils, and the amount of it is determined by the dark color of the soil. —*Indiana Farmer.*

THE POTATO ROT.—Some weeks since we published several articles on the subject of the potato rot, based on the credited claims of the remedy discovered by Mr. Roberts, of Michigan. Our confidence in these claims was based not only on the facts in Mr. Roberts' experience, which we had every reason to believe, but also on the nature of the remedy. The process appeared to us reasonable, or rather natural, that is, the powers nature were resorted to for remedying the defects which were probably caused by a violation of nature's laws. The remedy is now openly published, and consists simply in leaving the seed potatoes in the hill all winter, covering them with straw, chaff or leaves, to keep them from freezing. In the spring take them up just as fast as you want to plant them, allowing them to be exposed to the air as little as possible.

It is briefly stated, but involves a good deal, namely, the restoring the seed to its natural life. The arrangements of nature are that the seeds and propagation roots should remain in the ground until the time of their decay and absorption by the new life which comes forth from their death. It is not natural that they should be taken up and stowed away in granaries and bins. It does not necessarily follow that this artificial process will necessarily injure the seed, but it may, and in some cases we know that it does. There are seeds that if dried or housed lose all their utility. Those who have attempted to propagate the horse chestnut tree, have no doubt found it very difficult to germinate the seeds that have dried, whereas those put into the ground in the fall and allowed to remain, usually come up. This, we understand, was Mr. Roberts' course of reasoning, before he experimented, and the result showed its correctness. However, he goes still further in his explanation, and thinks that in the bed where the potato grows, it is entirely prevented from coming in contact with the air, by the compressed covering around each potato, caused by its gradual enlargement. Also that the potato does not fully mature during the growing season, and only acquires its maturity and capability of reproducing, in perfection, during the winter, and for that purpose it should remain in the ground undisturbed as it grew.

The subject is one of much interest, and we cannot but urge our far-*g* friends to try this plan, remembering that Mr. Roberts does not pretend to its effecting a complete cure in one year, though a *gr* at difference is seen even in this time. Three years, however, will complete this work. —*Chicago Tribune.*

The Family Circle

Conducted by

Mrs. MARY ABBOTT.

The Fairs.

We do hope that there will be a full attendance of the ladies this fall at the Fairs. It will do them good in many ways. Some city ladies think it is not quite so genteel to go to the fairs as it is to go to the Saratoga Springs. In this they are greatly mistaken. All that constitutes true gentility may be seen among the noble gentlemen and ladies who take their time and give their presence and influence to these truly useful Agricultural Fairs, held annually for the mutual benefit of the industrial portion of the community. What true lady would not rather go to the Agricultural Fairs and see and learn so many things that will do her good, and be of lasting benefit to her, than to go to some fashionable watering place and uselessly spend a month or six weeks in vain dressing or foolish display, and thus waste so much precious time without receiving the least good, but return with her mind filled with envy at those who made a gayer or more fashionable display than herself.

Go to the Fairs and you will receive good and confer benefit. You will confer benefit by giving your presence and influence to such great and glorious objects; you will receive good by seeing the improvements in those things that interest yourself. You can in turn make the same improvements. By encouraging industry you encourage virtue and every thing that is good. Do not think that your presence is not needed. Your presence and your influence are needed, and your handiwork ought to be brought forward for exhibition. Everything that is good needs and ought to have the co-operation of females. Ladies, go to the fairs if you have nothing to exhibit but your own approbation and pleasure. You may there learn how to perform many things in domestic economy, such as making good bread, butter, preserves, pickles and other things that will more than pay you for going. Then ladies, arrange your domestic concerns so that you can go to the Fairs with your

husbands, brothers, or sons, and those who have little ones that they cannot leave, carry them along, as we intend to do, if God in his providence should permit us to attend.

Trip to Belleville.

We have just returned from a trip to Belleville, Ills. As we rode in an omnibus which was filled and crowded with a mixed company of Germans and French, with but few Americans, we cared not to keep our eyes inside, where we had nothing to rest them upon but the unprepossessing and outlandish countenances of most of the passengers; but our eyes turned instinctively to a lad bearing the marks of French descent who sat in the corner of the 'Bus,' with a countenance that might have been intelligent, but for the evident marks of dissipation imprinted upon it. Although he was so young—not more than eighteen years old—his face, that might have borne the attractions of youth, was swollen to the eyes, which appeared like two unconscious little holes in his head, rather than the index of the mind, as they ought to have been, and our eyes turned in disgust from his brutish face, and in sorrow, when we thought of the many promising young men who have been and are now being destroyed by the demon *Intemperance*. Our hearts went out in prayer that God would save the youth—the hope of our country from further destruction by this fiend of human happiness and usefulness; and as we turned our eyes outward upon the beauties of nature we saw enough to feast them upon, and we wish we could commit to paper our reflection, as we admired the handy works of God. But we do not possess the power of description to describe what we so much admired. Everything that is cultivated is in the full vigor of vegetation. Large fields of 20 to 25 acres of waving corn each stalk burdened with well filled ears; trees with their branches bowing and breaking with their juicy fruit; broad fields richly carpeted with deep green buckwheat; while the road on either side is beautified and ornamented with flowers. The scenery all along called forth feelings of deepest gratitude, and we said to ourselves—*'Our Father made them all.'*

Belleville is situated about 14 miles south-east from St. Louis, with about 4000 inhabitants—a large part of them Germans and French. It is an enterprising, business place, much more so than any inland village we have seen in the west. They have church edifices of almost every denomination, which are very neat in their construction and add much to the appearance of the place. They have many other large and handsome houses in the village, but as we had not time to go round and see the place, we cannot give such a description of it as it deserves. We were told that it is almost impossible to find a house that is for rent. The people formed an Agricultural Society the day we were there, which we think speaks much for the intelligence and enterprise of the county.

We stayed at Mr. Harvey's, one of the former editors and proprietors of the Illinois republican. He is now an enterprising merchant of the firm of Harvey, Walker & Co., and were very kindly entertained, and formed some new and agreeable acquaintances.

The Good Samaritan.

As we were riding for our health the other day our horse stumbled and fell, breaking one of the shafts in his fall. We were too far from home to walk, and for a time were in a great dilemma what to do. Several persons passed us—reminding us of the priest and Levite; at length the Good Samaritan chanced to pass that way. He very cheerfully and readily lent a helping hand. He bound up the broken shaft in such a manner as made it quite safe for us to proceed on our way, which we did after thanking him from the bottom of our hearts for his generous and timely aid, and as we rode on we could not help thinking that there are some good and generous people yet in the world—even in the city of St. Louis, notwithstanding what some narrow minded writers say of the heathenish darkness and great wickedness of our city. Good and noble actions will have great influence, and we said to ourselves 'Go thou and do likewise.' 'Tis cheerful to think that we have in our midst high minded and noble hearted people, who

have not been eaten and gnawed by the canker worm of selfishness.

Be Circumspect.

Be circumspect before your children, for your words and looks are copied and remembered by the little ones around you, and your children estimate your friends and neighbors according to the manner you speak of them in their presence. They are imitative beings and they will imitate your every act, and you may read your own life and character in them. Therefore what you would like your children to be try to be the same yourself. If you would like to have them mild, gentle and cheerful, *be the same*. If you wish them to be charitable and generous, set the example. You mould their characters and lives by *your own* acts and life. Your children will not be all that is good and lovely if you are churlish, morose and uncharitable, and you will be in a measure accountable for their deeds. Your children's character and respectability for the future depends much upon the example you set them now. Your influence over them is boundless, and will last through eternity. Then be careful of your words, acts and looks before your children, for they will be transmitted to future generations for good or evil.

A Time for Everything.

'I have no time to read,' says Jack Fiddle-faddle, who is strolling off every evening to the play and stays out so late, that he cannot afford to rise till breakfast in the morning. 'I have no time to study,' says Miss Gadabout who is making calls from ten o'clock to dinner time, and from dinner time till dark.

'I have no time to go to the lecture,' cries Mr. Stupidity, as he dozes away his evenings in the corner. 'I can't find time to read your newspapers,' says Mr. Runabroad, who spends his evenings in the grog-shop. 'I wish I had some leisure,' says Mr. Horsejockey, who, instead of attending to his farm, is trotting from one village to another to trade horses.

'O, if I had a chance I would be a scholar,' says Mr. Donothing, who only sucks his fingers and bores his neighbors with long calls, and troubles every body. 'What a good thing learning is,' preaches Mr. Ignorance, who reads only his Almanac. 'My boys shall be taught something,' says Mr. Pincher, who

won't take his share of wood to the school-house, or board the teacher his proportion of the time. 'La, me! my children learn nothing; what a school marm!' sighs Mrs. Scratchbook who lights her pipe with spelling-books and sends her children to school without any books.

'O, if I wasn't so old I'd learn to write,' says Mr. Makehisecross, who was but thirty years old last October, and who probably has thirty more years to live. 'Pity I hadn't some education,' complains Mr. Loveidleness, who is just beginning the world. 'Pity I did not study when I was at school. Here I am twenty-five years old: and can hardly read and write.'

'The newspaper costs so much, says Mr. Spendthrift, who is buying a pound of tobacco, a half pound of tea and two quarts of rum, every week. 'I wish the days were longer,' simpers Miss Topnot, who is at her toilet two hours a-day, and who looks at the mirror every time she goes near one. 'O, for a book,' cries Mr. Novelreader, who has a Bible, Prescott's History, and one or two scientific works on his table. 'What a dull day!' says Miss Jiltroundtown, with her father's library full of the standard works of the English language.

The truth is, there is a time for everything. They who think they have the least, often have the most. Wisdom shows itself in improving each moment as it flies. Much of our happiness or misery depends upon the filling up of each moment with some sort of occupation. If we do nothing vacuity or restlessness comes over us, and makes us unhappy. But if every hour is well employed, there is an inward satisfaction that diffuses peace and contentment through our whole soul.

Courtesies of Life.

I want to tell you a secret. The way to make yourself pleasing to others, is to show that you care for them. The whole world is like the Miller at Mansfield, 'who cared for nobody—no, not he—because nobody cared for him.' And the whole world will serve you so if you give them the same cause. Let every one, therefore, see that you do care for them, by showing them what Sterne so happily calls 'the small sweet courtesies of life'—those courtesies in which there is no parade, whose voice is still to please, and which manifest themselves by tender and affectionate looks, and little kind acts of attention—giving others the preference of every little enjoyment at the table, in the field, walking, sitting or standing. This is the spirit that gives to your time of life, and to your sex; their sweetest charms. It constitutes the sum total of the witchcraft of woman. Let the world see

that your first care is for yourself, and you will spread the solitude of the upas-tree around you, in the same way, by the emanation of a poison which kills all the juices of affection in its neighborhood. Such a girl may be admired for her understanding and accomplishments, but she will never be beloved. The seeds of love can never grow but under the warm and genial influence of kind feelings and affectionate manners. Vivacity goes a great way in young persons. It calls attention to her who displays it; and if it then be found associated with a generous sensibility, its execution is irresistible. On the contrary, if it be found in alliance with a cold haughty, selfish heart, it produces no further effect except an adverse one. Attend to this, my daughter. It flows from a heart that feels for you all the anxiety that a parent can feel and not without the hope which constitutes the parent's highest happiness. May God protect and bless you.—*Letters from William Wirt to his Daughter.*

The Selfish Girl.

'What is the matter, Mary?' said a teacher to a pupil who had been sitting with downcast eyes and sorrowful face for sometime.

Mary looked up half unwillingly, as if conscious that all was not just right with her, and not quite sure that she had better tell her trouble. But a glance at the teacher's face gave her more confidence, and she replied in a tone as sorrowful as her countenance appeared,

'The girls don't like me.'

'And why, Mary, do not the girls like you?' the teacher asked.

'I don't know why,' was the reply. 'They don't love to have me play with them, and when I go with them they look as if they wished me away.'

The teacher was sorry to hear Mary talk so; and she felt that there must be something wrong. She was usually a very pleasant child.

No one came to school looking happier; when she presented her bouquet of rare flowers to the teacher, which she took great delight in doing, the teacher could not help wondering why it was that little Mary did not get along better; why she was so often called upon to settle little difficulties between her and her playmates.

She looked at the little girl, who by this time was crying bitterly, and, taking her kindly by the hand, drew her close to her. She would have kissed the tears away and made her happy, but Mary's heart was too full, too sad to be comforted with a kiss.

The teacher did not talk to her much at that time, but she resolved to watch her more

closely for the future, and see if she could discover the reason why she had so few friends among her playmates. She did not, however, have to wait many days before she saw very plainly the reason.

'Good-morning, Mary,' said little Susan to her, as she came running in all excitement, from the playground. Mary was intent upon something else, and so forgot to say 'good morning' in return, and little Susan turned away sorry that Mary did not speak to her.

By and by, little Jane, Mary's seatmate, carelessly dropped some bits of paper and flower-leaves a little beyond her side of the desk.

Mary, instead of picking them up quietly, or pleasantly asking Jane to do it, walked up to the teacher, and informed her that Jane kept dropping things on her side of the desk, so that she could not keep it clean; and thus she lost Jane's love for that day.

After a while the water was to be passed; and because the teacher did not let Mary do it, she turned away her head, and did not look happy; indeed, she almost looked cross at the little girl who brought the water to her. Thus she was unhappy again.

At recess Mary manifested the same spirit. She did not exactly want to be naughty, but she must swing the rope or jump just as she pleased, no matter what others wanted. If they were to have a game at games, Mary would stand in just the position she liked, or she would not play at all.

If an accident happened, she was always ready to rest the blame on any one besides herself. Thus the girls became dissatisfied with her, and did sometimes wish that Mary would not trouble them. Then she would come in from recess with a sad face, thinking her playmates did not love her.

Now, what was the true cause of all Mary's trouble? *She was a selfish little girl.* She wanted to have everything her own way, and this was why she was not loved.

If you would have others love you, you must be kind, generous, and willing to give up your own pleasures for the comfort and happiness of others. Try it, girls and boys, and see if this is not true.—*Selected.*

Happiness.

True happiness is of a retired nature, and an enemy to pomp and noise. It arises in the first place, from the enjoyment of one's self, and in the next, from the friendship and conversation of a few select companions. False happiness loves to be in a crowd, and to draw the eyes of the world upon her; she does not receive any satisfaction from the applause which she gives herself, but from the admiration which she raises in others.

Little Children.

Little children, how I love them!
With their winning, artless ways;
Soothing many hours of sadness,
Charming many weary days.

Little children, gifts of Heaven,
Flowers still bright from God's own hand,
Dearest blessings to man given;
Wanderers from an angel land.

Little children, joyous creatures,
Cheer with love and smiles their way;
Gently speak and kindly treat them—
Childhood's hours soon flee away.

Selected.

How to Live Long.

It is the easiest thing in the world, perhaps, to secure a long life, provided there is a moderately good constitution to start with, and provided also that no accident intervenes. Yet how few there are who seem to be aware of this! If persons are to be judged by their conduct, indeed, we might conclude that nothing could be done to prolong life, but that it depended entirely on chance whether adult years were attained—whether death came at forty, or whether existence was prolonged to the Scriptural 'three score years and ten.'

The laws of life, however, are as immutable and regular as those of astronomy. Whoever lives according to those laws may reasonably calculate on a good old age. Whoever systematically violates them may as certainly expect to shorten his existence. The human body is in truth, but a machine, and, like all other machines, it may be worn out before its time by abuse and neglect. Excesses on the one hand; or want of exercise on the other, will tear it prematurely to pieces, or allow it to rust away. Too little work, or too much, will alike prove fatal to prolonged existence.

Americans violate the law of life principally through their excesses. In early manhood excess in convivial enjoyment and even in worse kinds of dissipation, is unfortunately too common. But excess is far from ceasing with mature manhood. With energetic persons, the desire to achieve a fortune, has at this period of life, generally succeeded to the pleasure seeking phase of earlier years. The man, still radically unchanged, pursues business with as much avidity as ever he sought recreation. Early and late, he is at his work, over-tasking his mind, and exhausting his body by undue labor. At first, indeed, he does not feel the effects of his indiscretion. Morning finds him refreshed by the repose of the night; he seems to himself as vigorous as ever; and he returns to his pursuits with the same eagerness, the same tenacity, the same folly as before. But nature at last avenges herself. By middle age he is already an old man. Or, perhaps he suddenly breaks down, even an an

earlier period, becoming a confirmed valetudinarian, the victim of dyspepsia, rheumatism, gout, nervous disorders, or possibly a complication of all four.

If men would attain to the allotted term of life, they must shun excess in work, therefore as well as in pleasure. To kill one's self by a greedy haste after riches, is as much a moral suicide as to destroy one's life by wine, by tobacco, by dining out, by late hours. It is not sufficient however, to avoid excess merely, in order to arrive at 'three score and ten.' Judicious exercise must be mingled with habits of moderate living. Personal cleanliness must be observed by bathing, by frequent changes of linen, and by friction of the skin to induce a healthy state of that membrane. Many an excellent clergyman has shortened his days, involuntarily, by remaining in his study, when he should have been sawing wood in the cellar, walking in the fresh air, or galloping over breezy hills. Many an individual, in both sexes, has brought on disease by neglecting to keep the pores of the body properly opened. The fashionable practice of turning day into night, and night into day, is also an enemy to length of years. There is no light so beautiful as God's free sunlight. The fair, fresh complexions of most Quaker girls, and the comparatively faded ones of fashionable women, is a testimony present before us all, in favor of regular hours, and against gas-lit ball rooms. Plenty of light, also, even in day time conduces to health. The inhabitants of dark courts, like prisoners, wilt and grow wan.

A long life is rarely the lot of a passionate person. Indeed, only an iron constitution can withstand frequently recurring tempests of anger, hate, jealousy, and other evil emotions. Literally is such an individual 'given over to a demon,' to racked and torn, year after, till life escapes at last beneath the torture. To be just, moderate and true; is to be, almost certainly, a sexagenarian. Yet indolence, either of body or of mind, much less of both, is almost as fatal to protracted existence as excess in pursuit of fortune, or in the chase of pleasure. Nature is never idle and will not allow man to be so, without dwarfing his intellect and shortening his days. But as few Americans permit themselves to rust out, we dismiss this part of our subject without further comment.

Who will be wise and live long? Who foolish and die prematurely? Either course is before you, reader!—*Ledger.*

ANGER.—It is the great duty of Christians to put off anger. It unfits for duty. A little jogging puts a clock out of frame; so a little passion the heart. A man cannot wrestle with God and wrangle with his neighbor at the same time.

COULDN'T COS HE SING SO!—Leaning idly over a fence a few days since, we noticed a little four year 'lord of the creation' amusing himself in the grass by watching the frolicsome flight of birds which were playing around him. At length a beautiful bobolink perched himself upon a drooping bough of an apple tree, which extended to within a few yards of the place where the urchin sat and maintained his position, apparently unconscious of the close proximity to one whom birds usually consider a dangerous neighbor.

The boy seemed astonished at his impudence, and after regarding him steadily for a minute or two, obeying the instinct of his baser part, he picked up a stone lying at his feet, and was preparing to throw it, steadying himself carefully for a good aim. The little arm was reached backward without alarming the bird, and Bob was within an ace of damage, when lo! his throat swelled, and forth came Nature's plea, 'A link—a link—a link-k, bob-a-link, bob-a-link! a no-wet! I know it—I know it! a link—alink! don't throw it!—throw it, throw it,' &c., &c.; and he didn't. Slowly the little arm subsided to its natural position, and the despised stone dropped. The minstrel charmed the murderer! We heard the songster thro' and watched his unharmed flight, as did the boy, with a sorrowful countenance. Anxious to hear an expression of the little fellow's feelings, we approached him and inquired;

'Why didn't you stone him, my boy? you might have killed him and carried him home?'

The poor little fellow looked up doubtfully, as though he suspected our meaning, and with an expression of half shame and half sorrow, he replied, 'Couldn't cos he sung so!'

'ALL IS FOR THE BEST.'—Dr. Johnson used to say that the habit of looking at the best side of every event, is better than a thousand pounds a year. Bishop Hall quaintly remarks, 'for every bad there might be a worse, and when a man breaks his leg, let him be thankful that it was not his neck!' When Fenelon's library was on fire, 'God be praised,' he said, 'that it is not the dwelling of some poor man!' This is the true spirit of submission; one of the most beautiful traits that can possess the human heart. Resolve to see this world on the sunny side, and you have almost half won the battle at the outset.

TO CLEAN CARPETS.—Your carpets being first well beaten and freed from dust, tack it down to the floor; then mix a half pint of bullock's gall with two gallons of soft water; scrub it well with soap and with this gall mixture; let it remain till quite dry, and it will be perfectly cleansed and look like new, as the colors will be restored to their original brightness.

Uses of the Peach.

We make the following extract from an article which appeared in the *New York Times*, over the signature of AGEICOLA:—

The peach is one of those fruits in particular recommended to be eaten in the morning, in preference to any other time. Brooks says they agree well with persons of hot constitutions and costive habits, especially if eaten in a morning fasting; and Gerard says that the leaves boiled in milk will destroy the worms in children. From the wood of the peach tree the color called rose pink is obtained. The leaves, when bruised and distilled in water, constitute an excellent article for flavoring certain descriptions of cookery. When steeped in brandy, they communicate to it the flavor of Noyeau. Sweetening with fine sugar, mixed with a small quantity of milk, and afterwards decanted in the usual manner.

Dried Peaches.—To dry peaches in their whole state, pear them, boil for a few minutes in a syrup composed of one pound sugar dissolved in three quarts of water, and, after being drained by laying them singly on boards, place them in the oven, after the bread is taken out, and pack them carefully in boxes. Another method pursued in the drying of peaches is to have a small house provided with a stove, and drawers in the side of the house latched at their bottoms, with void intervals. The ripe peaches are then cut in two, but not peeled, and placed in a single layer on the laths, with their skins downward to save the juice; on shoving in the drawer, they are soon dried by the hot air produced by the stove: in this way great quantities may be successfully prepared, in a single season, with but a little expense in the preparation of the buildings and in fuel. There is yet another method which it may be well to refer to in this place. Take the open stone sort, when perfectly matured, but not too soft, and after rubbing off all the down with a coarse wet cloth, divide them into halves, fill the cavities with sugar and place them skin down, so that they may be removed without handling the fruit. By this method the pores are so closed on one side by the skin, which should not be removed, and sugar on the other, that the flavor of the fruit is retained in a much greater degree than in the common way.

Peach Preserves.—Take enough clarified sugar to cover the fruit, boil it till the syrup bubbles on the opposite side of the skimmer, then put in the fruit, let it boil lively two minutes, remove the same, let it stand from the fire till next day, then take out the fruit, boil the syrup again, and as soon as the fruit boils take them from the fire, and when cold put into jars, and keep free from heat or moisture.

Peach Jam. Gather the fruit when ripe, peel and stone them, put them into the pan, and

mash them over the fire till hot; rub them through a sieve, and to each pound of pulp add a pound of white sugar and a half an ounce of bitter almonds, blanched and pounded; let it boil ten or fifteen minutes, stir and skim it well.

Peach Jelly.—Take free stones, not too ripe, wipe them, and cut into quarters; crack the stones and break the kernels small; put the peaches and kernels into a covered jar, set them in boiling water, and let them do till soft; strain through a jelly bag till the juice is squeezed out; allow a pint of white sugar to a pint of juice; put the sugar and juice into a preserving kettle, and boil them twenty minutes, skimming very carefully; put the jelly warm, into glasses or jars, and when cold, tie up with brandied papers.

Peach Wine.—Take nearly ripe fruit, stone it, and bruise the pulp in a mortar; put eight pounds of the pulp to one quart of water, and let it stand twenty-four hours, then squeeze out the juice, and to every gallon of it add two pounds of white sugar; then put into a cask, and when it is fermented and become perfectly clear, bottle it up and use at pleasure.

Peaches in Brandy.—Wipe, weigh, and carefully select the fruit, and have ready a quarter of the weight of powdered white sugar; put the fruit into a vessel that shuts closely, throw the sugar over it, and then cover the fruit with brandy; between the top and cover of the pot, put a piece of double cap paper; set the pot into a sauce pan of water till the brandy is quite hot, but not boiling; put the fruit into a jar, and pour the brandy upon it, and when cold put a bladder over, and tie it down tightly.

Pickled Peaches.—Take a gallon of good vinegar, add to it four pounds of sugar, boil it for a few minutes, and remove any scum that may rise; then take cling stone peaches that are fully ripe, rub them with a flannel cloth, to get off the down upon them, and stick three or four cloves in each; put them into a glass or earthen vessel, and pour the liquor upon them boiling hot; cover them up, and let them stand in a cool place for a week or ten days, then pour off the liquor, and boil it as before, after which return it boiling to the peaches, which should be carefully covered up for future use.

TEETH.—Healthy teeth depend mainly on healthy digestion, and on cleanly habits as regards the teeth. They must of course, be confined to the purposes for which they are designed. If they are employed for the purpose of cracking nuts, biting thread, unscrewing needle-cases, or turning the stopper of a smelling-bottle; if the mouth is used as a kind of portable tool-chest, in which a pair of scissors, a knife, a vice a corkscrew, or any other instrument, may be found at the time of need—then serious and irretrievable injury will eventually be done to the enamel of the teeth, which no healthiness of digestion nor cleanliness of habit will avail to remedy.

The Valley Farmer.

ST. LOUIS, MO., SEPTEMBER, 1853.

WOODWARD & ABBOTT, PUBLISHERS.

Office, corner Fourth and Chestnut streets,
ST. LOUIS, MO.

EPHRAIM ABBOTT, Editor.

Editor's office and Printing office, in Old Postoffice Building, north side of Chestnut street, between Third and Fourth streets, entrance on Old Postoffice Alley.

TERMS.

THE VALLEY FARMER is published on the first of each month, each number containing 48 large octavo pages (including 12 pages devoted to advertisements of matters of interest to farmers,) and is offered at the following rates:—

Single copy, one year, - - - - - \$1 00
Four copies, \$3; seven copies, \$5; Fifteen copies, \$10.
Payments, in all cases, must be made in advance.
Remittances in gold coins, current bank notes, or postage stamps, may be made by mail at our risk.

AGENTS.—Postmasters and Merchants throughout the country are authorized to act as Agents, and every friend of the enterprise is respectfully requested to aid in extending its circulation.

ADVERTISING.—Advertisements are inserted in the ADVERTISING DEPARTMENT of the Valley Farmer at the following rates:—On: insertion of 12 lines, \$1; each additional insertion, 50 cents; 12 lines one year \$8; each additional 12 lines one year, \$4; one page, one insertion, \$7; each additional insertion, \$3; one page, yearly, \$30. Ads of six lines or less, one year, \$4.

PLATT COUNTY.—We have just received a letter from a friend in Weston, who says: 'We are about starting an Agricultural and Mechanical Association for Platt and adjoining counties. We hold our next meeting on the 27th of next month (August), and nothing would delight the friends of the enterprise more than a visit from you on that occasion. If you can come let me know by telegraph that I may announce the fact in the papers. You will be able to add many to your list of subscribers if you can make your personal appearance among us.'

We have written to our friend that it was impossible for us to come up at that time, but if desirable we would make a short visit to Platt in the interim between the Jackson and Boone county Fairs.

THE FARMER IN DUTCH.—A correspondent in Lincoln county says, 'I was requested by a Dutchman to inquire if you could have the Valley Farmer published in Dutch. If you could he would become a subscriber, and he thought he could obtain you others also.' Now this is not the first request by a good many that we have received from our German friends to give them Farmer in their own language. We may do it next year if we can be assured of support enough to pay the cost.

Just so.—Says an esteemed correspondent who has sent us many subscribers: 'I verily believe if I had time to ride around and see such persons as I think would subscribe I could obtain many others. All they want is the thing presented and some person to forward the names and money.'

THE RIGHT WAY TO TALK.—'I would not take five dollars for my last year's volume of the Valley Farmer, and I want this year's from No. 1 up, and on till you "blow up" or I "stop her." Give us a little more Horticulture, if you please.' Thus writes a friend from Marion county. We assure him that he is now hooked for a perpetual ticket, and that there is not the least danger of a blow up. Our boilers have been tested by a five year's examination by competent judges (the people) who have pronounced our craft safe, reliable and just the thing for western navigation. Moreover, it is becoming quite a favorite with public; in fact a perfect crack boat, except that there is nothing like crackling about it,—and the number of passengers (readers) is constantly increasing. We have heard of hundreds who are intending to take a passage on New Years, who have never patronized it before. So look out for the engine while the bell rings!

LAFAYETTE COUNTY AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.—A meeting of the farmers and friends of Agriculture was held at the Court House in Lexington on the 26th July. The meeting was organized by calling Henry Wallace to the Chair, and electing W. Masgrove Secretary.

The object of the meeting being explained, it was resolved to form an association for the promotion of Agricultural and Mechanical interests.

It was agreed that a committee of three gentlemen from each Township be appointed, to solicit memberships in said Society, and that the sum of five dollars, to be paid to the Society shall entitle a man to membership.

The meeting adjourned to meet again on Saturday, the 13th inst., at the Court House, for the purpose of adopting the Constitution and By-Laws. H. WALLACE, Chairman.

W. MASGROVE, Sec.

A correspondent at Lexington writes, 'We have just organized an Agricultural Society in this county from which we hope great things. It is a matter of surprise that the best portion of our State should so long have remained indifferent to the benefits of these useful Societies.'

THE LITTLE GIANT—Not the U. S. Senator from over the river, but friend Scott's Mill—is highly deserving the attention of all our farmers. We have long been of the opinion that it is the worst kind of economy to feed corn in the ear whole to stock, especially cattle and hogs. Horses digest it better, but in order to get the full amount of labor out of a horse or make him take on flesh in the fastest ratio the more you can make him eat the better. Now a horse will soon tire of whole corn and leave it in the trough, but if you grind it up for him he will eat much more. We have no doubt but that three bushels of corn ground up with the cob and fed to the general stock on the farm will do as much good as five bushels fed in the ear. Do not then pass over Mr. Scott's advertisement on the first page of our advertising department. Appropos, we cut the following from an exchange:

CORN MEAL.—Mr. Thomas Molley, Jr., of West Roxbury, says, in the Boston Cultivator:—I have fed out over five hundred bushels this winter to horses, working oxen, milch cows and pigs—in fact: I have used no other grain. My horses have never been in better condition than at present, and have worked hard all winter; they have been fed regularly upon the following feed: 12 lbs. cut hay and 8 quarts cob meal to each horse per day. Horses, oxen and cows are all in good health and condition, and I would be happy to see any person interested in agricultural matters, and let them judge for themselves.

THE INDUSTRIAL LUMINARY.—This is a new paper printed at Parkville, Mo., by Park & Cundiff. It is a very handsome sheet and its editors seem well qualified for their undertaking. We copy from its Agricultural department the following notice of a favorite Summer apple:

RED ASTRACHAN.—This fine summer fruit ripens a little after the Early Harvest. It was imported near 40 years ago, from Sweden. The tree has great vitality and is of rapid growth, with upright, slightly diverging shoots; forming one of the most beautiful ornamental trees for the yard or garden. Its leaves are broad, and the shoots stout. Both Downing and Thomas recommend the tree for its great productiveness, beauty, and excellent qualities of its fruit for the desert and for cooking. The specimens before us from our garden are above medium size, measuring about ten inches in circumference, covered with a brilliant, deep crimson, having a light bloom on the surface like a Plum, and of extraordinary beauty for the table. The stalk is $\frac{1}{2}$ inch long, calyx and slightly ribbed. It is roundish oblate. Flesh, white and crisp, with a pleasant, rich, slightly acid flavor. We could not select a more beautiful or ornamental tree for the lawn independent of its bearing fruit of extraordinary beauty.

FRUIT BY RAILROAD.—Passing by the central market a few days ago, our attention was arrested by a crowd of persons, and recognising an acquaintance among them we stopped and inquired the cause. We learned that it was only a 'rush' around the stand of a man who had some choice fruit for sale. We soon found out that the owner of the fruit was one of our Franklin County subscribers—Mr. Frederick Brelches—who lives near the Franklin station. After trying his luscious peaches and plums, we gathered from him the following facts in regard to his experience in bringing fruit to market over the Pacific Railroad. He left home on Friday morning with seven barrels of fruit, which he brought to the city via railroad, and sold out on that and the next day, and returned home on Saturday, having been from home two days and one night. His whole expenses during his absence, including railroad charges for fare both ways, and transportation of his fruit, hauling from the depot to market, living for himself, &c, amounted to a trifle less than \$5. When opened in the market his fruit was as fresh and unbruised as if raised a mile from the market, and carefully brought in, and as a consequence brought the highest prices. Had he come the distance, 40 miles, with a waggon, over a common road, it would have taken six days to come in, sell out, and go home, and his tavern bill would have exceeded all his expenses on this occasion; moreover the jarring of the waggon in forty miles travel, and the time consumed in coming in, would have injured the appearance of his fruit so as to depreciate it perhaps 50 per cent. in value.

Mr. B. brought in a few bushels of an exceedingly rich, sweet, red plum, small in size, which he called the Little Maribel, a new variety to us, but we should think highly worthy the attention of pomologists. The whole lot was taken at once by a connoisseur of good fruit, who sent them back some eight miles on the railroad to his country house. Our thanks are due him for a generous supply of them which enabled us to taste the quality. We learned from Mr. B. that the scions of the plum, and also of a larger plum—also excellent—which he calls the St. Catharine plum, though it does not answer the description of the French plum of that name, was imported by him from Europe.

To Correspondents.

Does R. V. Harvey wish his paper sent to Boonville or Ridge Prairie?

T. B., Weston Mo.—We have sent papers as directed, and also written you by mail.

THE WESTERN JOURNAL.—Agricultural Education.—We are indebted to the politeness of the Editors of this useful work for the proof sheets in advance of the publication of the excellent and eloquent article commencing on the next page.—We take this occasion to say that the Western Journal deserves a much more generous support from the people of the West than it now receives—though we are happy to learn that its circulation has been very much increased of late. Each number contains a fund of important statistical information, to be found no where else. The *Western Journal* is published by Tarver & Cobb, in this city, at \$3 per annum. Every person interested in the great public improvements in the West, should be a reader of this publication.

MR. FRANCIS QUINNETH'S FRUIT FARM, two miles south east of the Court House, consists of twenty acres well set in apple, peach, pear, and plum trees. Notwithstanding it is but about six years since the first improvement was made on the land, the industrious proprietor has this year raised several thousand bushels of superior peaches, which have sold at good prices in this market. His teams for several weeks past have made eight loads a day, of this article alone, and he thinks his crop of apples will be nearly or quite as large as of peaches.

In the cultivation of his orchard Mr. Q. has found it essential to till the ground every season. Whenever he has attempted to sod under any of his trees, their stunted growth as compared with others, has led him to abandon the plan at once and apply the hoe and the plow.

Another peculiarity about this farm—developing a circumstance not greatly to the credit of nurserymen is, that although this orchard was set with budded fruit, purporting to be of the best qualities, yet the only good fruit to be found in it is from trees that have been budded a second time by Mr. Q., after the tree had come to bearing and its fruit had been tested and found worthless. In this way he has treated nearly all his trees, and now has an orchard, which for thriftiness and the quality of its fruit, will compare with any in the Mississippi Valley.

FRUIT.—For a month past we have been feasting on the choice luxuries which Pomo-

na has so bountifully poured out upon us.—Never before have we seen such profusion of plums, peaches, apples, pears and nectarines, and where all have been so good, it would be hard to say whose orchards have produced the best. Our cotemporaries have exhausted their superlatives in praising the various parcels sent them by considerate fruit growers, and we have ourselves attended many a family meeting over baskets of choice specimens. We have a promise from Hon. Thomas Allen that he will furnish us in season for our next issue a communication in relation to the fruit crop of 1853, and from his ability to do justice to the subject, we promise our readers an article of no ordinary interest.

One of our esteemed correspondents wishes to know if he has conformed to our rules for correspondents—if he has he will keep up a correspondence with the Farmer for the time to come. We beg him to write "right on" without thinking about rules. His communications will always be acceptable.

St. Clair Co., Ill. Agricultural Society.

A meeting of the citizens of this county was held on Monday August 7, for the purpose of forming a society for the improvement of agriculture, to act as a branch of the State Society.

On motion of Gov. Reynolds, Joseph Griffin, Esq., was called to the chair and N. Niles appointed secretary. Gov. Reynolds explained the objects of the meeting and advocated the cause of improved cultivation in a very able and interesting speech.

After some further remarks by Messrs. Niles and Abbott, the editor of the *Valley Farmer*, published in St. Louis, the meeting resolved to organize a society. A committee composed of fifteen persons was appointed to draft a constitution. This committee after a short retirement reported a constitution and code of bye-laws which will be published hereafter. The meeting then elected the following gentleman as officers, namely:—President, Joseph Griffin, Recording Secretary, Anton Schott, Corresponding Secretary, N. Niles; Vice Presidents, one from each Justice's precinct. Jacob Knoebel, Belleville; Cornelius Glas, Centreville; Peter Bowler, Ridge Prairie; Ausby Fike, Mascoutah; Thorton Peeples, Lebanon; Robt Higgins, Richland; Ed. McCatren, Fayetteville; Lambert Boneau, Illinoisstown; Balser Werner, Caseyville; Daniel Moore, Athens.

Adjourned to meet again at a regular meeting provided for by the constitution.

JOSEPH GRIFFIN, *Pres.*

N. NILES, *Sec'y.*

From the Western Journal for August.

Agricultural Education.

In no other view does man approach so nearly the similitude of Deity as when regarded in the light of a being capable of enlarging the sphere, and multiplying the means of his own happiness. When contemplated in this light, his stature assumes dimensions proportioned to the grandeur of the objects for which he was created, and he stands forth endowed with faculties and clothed with powers approximating infinitude. He cannot create the elements of matter, nor alter the laws which regulate the Universe, but he may change the normal relations of the elements constituting the globe which he inhabits, and by combinations originating in his own mind evoke new forms, and create agents correspondent to his wants, and compel them to do his bidding. He may arouse the constituent elements of the vegetable kingdom from their repose in the earth, and liberate those which have been confined in the solid rock since the dawn of creation, and bringing them forth into the light and genial warmth of day, nurture them into life and fruitfulness. He may cause many blades of grass to grow where nature produced but one, and clothe the barren places of the earth with waving corn, fruitful trees, and the generous vine. By skillful culture he may impart new properties to noxious plants, changing their acrid qualities to delicious flavors, and their poisons to wholesome nutriment.

By the intelligent and active exercise of these powers he enlarges the volume of human subsistence, and ameliorates and improves the mental and moral condition of the race, while he multiplies their numbers.

The work of producing these sublime results so suggestive of creative power has been confined chiefly to the tillers of the soil, and upon their intelligence and industry the numbers and condition of the human family mainly depend. This is a grave, a fearful responsibility imposed upon the agriculturist, there is but encouragement in the reflection that his rewards are fully equivalent to the duties required at his hands. Just conceptions of the nature and extent of man's powers, and of the laws which govern the operations of nature, constitute a perennial source of human enjoyment; and the agriculturist in his vocation occupies the most favorable of all positions for observing the influence, which mind is capable of exerting over matter. Here it is his privilege to labor and study in open view of the ever changing relations and aspects and physical objects, and note with precision the results produced by his own agency.

Transmutation is an established order of nature, the process by which organic forms and

substances are produced and quickened into life; and the art of agriculture consists chiefly in modifying this natural process.

Behold: the earth is one common repository of organic remains,—animal and vegetable—the debris of extinct generations. Can these bones live? It is the office of the agriculturist to collect these scattered remains, and by certain combinations vitalize and restore them to life, giving them forms more beautiful, and qualities more excellent than those which they possessed in their former state of vital existence. Note the process. Mineral substances being combined with organic remains in due proportions, he pulverizes the mass, making pervious to light and genial heat, to moisture and atmospheric air, bringing these various ingredients and agents into friendly union, that each may act its appropriate part in the great work about to be performed. Thus prepared, seed containing the vital principle of plants are buried beneath the surface. Anon, the process of transmutation begins. By the combined agency of heat and moisture the solid food provided by the parent plant to nourish and sustain its infant offspring is softened and dissolved; the dormant principle of life now awakes, and eager to return to the living world, the diverse elements of the dead mass rush to embrace the quickened germ, and yield themselves as food to the tender plant. Its roots go forth to feed in the pasture prepared by the husbandman: the stem rises above the surface, unfolds its leaves, absorbs the light of day, and breathes the vital air. The plant grows apace; attains pubescence; and moved by the procreant principle reveals its dual nature, male and female. The season of love ensues; the nuptial feast approaches. And now, decked with flowers bright and pure as thoughts of heaven, nature celebrates the hymnial rites, and rejoices in their consummation. Fruit succeeds; the parent transmits the vital principle to its offspring; and having performed its mission, dissolves into earth and air; again to take its place amongst the dead, and again to return to life, obedient to the call of man.

This series of transmutations is no poet's dream, no creation of the fancy to amuse the vacant mind, or empty show to attract the idler's gaze. It is the unfinished work of creation confided to the charge of man, when God rested from his labors, and said: 'Be fruitful, and multiply, and replenish the earth, and subdue it.'

Contemplate the results. Corn, and wine, and oil, to strengthen and make glad the heart of man, and cause his face to shine; materials to clothe and adorn his person; and fruits and spices to gratify his senses. fill his stores to repletion, demanding a multiplication of the race to enjoy the bounties of the season.

Another series of transmutations succeeds. The nutritious substances and fruits produced by agriculture constitute the subsistence of a race higher in the scale of intelligence and moral virtue, than the wandering tribes who rely upon nature alone to supply their wants. Hence the earth is replenished with a new order of beings, and as their numbers increase, the nomadic tribes perish at their approach; their hunting grounds change to fruitful fields; and where unassisted nature sustained but one savage, an hundred of the civilized race rejoice in a comfortable subsistence drawn from agriculture and kindred arts.

Thus, as inorganic matter when brought in contact with the vital principle of plants, is transformed into fibre, foliage, flowers and fruit, so these when brought into certain relations with the vital principle of man, are changed to blood, bones and muscles. To trace out this second series of transmutations would be but a recapitulation of the first. The ingenious plowman will perceive the analogy without the repetition; and while he contemplates the sublime economy of nature and himself—the agent and apparent object of her chief operations—he will feel exalted by his vocation and experience a sense of dignity arising from his elevated position in the scale of created beings. These views of the transmutations of matter will lead him to trace the analogies and relations between the physical and moral world; whence he will perceive, that like plants, the moral nature of man requires cultivation to meliorate and improve its normal state, and that its progressive developments depend upon intellectual improvement and the progress of knowledge in whatsoever tends to augment the means of human subsistence.

Reverting to the history of the race he will comprehend the reason why the social principle has been so long subjected to the selfish; why the chief aim of mankind, individually and collectively, has been to appropriate to themselves not only the natural products and possessions of the earth, but also the fruits produced by the labor of other hands than their own. Here he sees men transformed to demons, rebelling against the primal injunction, and warring against each other for the spontaneous productions of nature. Pending their fiendish struggles, a few families driven into peninsulas and islands, and confined to those localities by their enemies, are compelled to resort to agriculture for subsistence; the arts of civilization spring up as a natural consequence: the moral and social principles begin to be developed, and growing in strength civilization enlarges its borders, gaining a foothold upon the adjacent continent. But being compelled to guard the fruits of their toil against the ravages of barbarians, the art

of war becomes a necessary concomitant to the arts of peace. While small in numbers compared to their enemies, it was natural that the agriculturist should feel grateful to those who bravely and successfully defend his home: the soldier was hailed as the savior of the commonwealth, and war regarded more honorable than labor. Hence antagonistic interests and social distinctions were established, and in time the tillers of the soil became the bondmen of those who defended it against foreign aggression. Laboring in a vocation thus degraded in the estimation of mankind, and struggling against an armed adversary who subsisted on the fruits of their toil, many ages elapsed before agriculture acquired sufficient strength to control the policy of nations, or to make its votaries respectable even in their own estimation.

Looking to the future, the hopes of the enlightened philanthropist are based chiefly upon the advancement of agriculture. Judging from the improvements made in his own day, his imagination assigns no limits to the productions of the earth, none to the number of its inhabitants. Tracing the successive developments of physical science he sees man engaged in the pursuit of higher objects than the subjugation of nations by war, and cherishing nobler aspirations than a desire to live without labor. He justly concludes that, as men advance in the knowledge of agriculture, the burthens of labor will be lightened until the pursuit will be regarded merely in the light of a science involving no more labor than will afford agreeable exercise to its votaries.

Grant the attainment of these views, and the moral and social condition of the human family will have undergone a change as complete as the transmutations of matter. For whilst the process which increases the products of the soil, improves the qualities of its fruits, it also removes many causes of disease; and hence the enjoyments of life will be heightened, the period of individual usefulness prolonged, the occasion of grief and vexation become less frequent, and the temper of the mind being improved, social like individual enjoyments will become more pleasing and permanent.

The causes of war having ceased, commerce, the offspring and agent of agriculture, will distribute its products throughout the earth, and the inhabitants of every clime feasting at one common board shall proclaim their grateful thanks to one common parent.

But what shall he said in answer to the doctrines of the political economists who live in terror of famine arising from increase of numbers? It is a humiliating truth that all ages have furnished instances of human suffering from this cause, and more humiliating still that they should occur in our own day.

but there is reason to fear that such instances will continue to occur until a more enlightened order of teachers shall rise up to instruct the tillers of the soil. In the mean time, however, let man study the laws of nature, labor diligently, and act justly, and then they may safely rely upon the wisdom and benevolence of Deity to avert the horrors of pestilence and famine.

The command, to be fruitful, and multiply, and replenish the earth, was given to Noah and his sons, with a blessing, and without limitation; and did man conform to the laws of the Creator in other respects, obedience to this injunction could never be attended by evil consequences to the race. Man blunders in his designs, but nature never. By investigating her laws, and conforming to her dictates, his desires and conduct are brought into harmony with her operations; and were it possible by the aid of science to reach the utmost limit of the earth's capacity to yield subsistence, the physical, intellectual and social character of man would doubtless conform to the condition of the earth; and the danger from famine still be as remote, as when the progenitors of the race occupied the garden of Eden.

All the discoveries and improvements of the age combined, are as dust in the balance when compared to the improvements required, and attainable in agriculture. Railroads and steamships facilitate commercial and social intercourse, exchange the products of distant lands, and extend the sympathies of the human family; and improvements in machinery greatly multiply the means of human comfort without increasing the burthens of labor.—These improvements all tend to augment the numbers of the race, and to enlarge the area of civilization; but without improvement in the science of agriculture their benefits must be transient. The increasing demand upon the natural fertility of the earth will hasten the exhaustion of the soil, and the improvements from which so much is expected by the friends of human progress will disappoint the hopes of the philanthropist, unless sustained by a corresponding advancement in the science of agriculture.

A subject so deeply involving the destiny of the human family, claims their highest consideration, and invokes the countenance and substantial patronage of all civilized governments. The tillers of the soil need no bounties, no peculiar privileges: they only need instruction in the elementary principles of their vocation—to have their minds directed to the investigation of appropriate subjects, and their taste for the beautiful in nature cultivated and improved.

The physician, the lawyer, and the divine, all receive instruction at institutions founded

for the benefit of their respective professions; but there are no institutions, we believe, in our country where a thorough agricultural education can be obtained. The farmer is left to grope his way in the dark, and not one in a thousand possesses knowledge respecting the constituents and peculiar combinations of his soil sufficient to enable him to select the right kind of fertilizers, and apply them in proper quantities. Hence his experiments, if not total failures, are unprofitable, and becoming discouraged he proclaims scientific farming a fallacy, and settles down upon the old system of exhausting his land, and purchasing more when its cultivation ceases to be profitable.—It requires no prophet to predict the destiny of a country whose inhabitants cultivate the soil upon this principle: its population and wealth soon reach their maximum, and then unless it possess other important resources, both must decline.

This subject has been so frequently discussed in the 'Western Journal,' and presented in so many views, that we cannot pursue it further without danger of reiterating what has already been published. We shall, therefore, proceed to suggest the object aimed at in the present paper: *Agricultural Education.*

A knowledge of geology, chemistry, meteorology and the physiology of plants may be regarded as essential to every individual who undertakes the management of a farm. And we insist that it is the duty of every State to give substantial and efficient encouragement to the study of these departments of science. The elementary principles relating to agriculture, if judiciously arranged, might be introduced into common schools with great benefit to those who have not the means of obtaining a more thorough course of instruction. But the first step towards the introduction of a system of agricultural education is the establishment of an AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE, where no other branches of learning should be taught than such as relate to the cultivation of the soil. A farm must necessarily be connected with the institution, for the soil, the plants and the atmosphere are the subjects to be observed and operated upon. It is only by experiments made upon these that the benefits of the science can be properly illustrated.—Besides the more solid benefits to be derived from such an institution, it would raise agriculture to the rank of the learned professions, and give it a dignity in the estimation of common minds, which it has not possessed since the more palmy days of Rome.

We bring this subject to the notice of our readers at the present time, with the hope that the Missouri State Agricultural Society and the County Agricultural Societies will, at their annual meetings shortly to be held, take the matter under consideration, and make public

their views touching the policy of establishing an agricultural college, in Missouri, to be erected and endowed by the State.

We may be allowed to observe, in connection with this subject, that a strong disposition has been manifested in and out of Congress within the last two years, to make liberal donations of the public domain, especially to the old States, for purposes of education; and we respectfully suggest the propriety of urging upon Congress the just claims of Missouri to a liberal grant of lands, to aid in establishing an agricultural college in this State.

The State Agricultural Fair, to be held at Booneville, early in October, will attract the intelligent farmers from every part of the State, and afford a favorable opportunity of obtaining the sense of our citizens upon this important subject.

We rejoice in the spirit of improvement recently manifested by the farmers of Missouri, and appreciate the benefits which may be derived from agricultural societies and exhibitions. They may do much to advance the art, but little to improve the science of agriculture—this must be taught as other branches of learning before the most important of all industrial pursuits can be placed on a solid foundation. Entertaining these views, we are impelled by a sense of duty as public journalists, to urge upon the agricultural associations of Missouri the propriety of memorializing Congress for a grant of land in aid of an Agricultural College in our State. If this should be denied, then let them be prepared to bring the subject before the next General Assembly of the State, supported by an expression of public sentiment, that will insure success.

ILLINOIS FRUIT.—We have been shown some elegant specimens of fruit from the orchard of Dr. Hull, in Madison county, Ills., among which was a peach—Crawford's Early—which weighed ten ounces, and measured ten inches round; some mammoth apples, name not known; green gage and Egg Plums, and Nectarines, very fine looking, and tasting as well as nectarines can taste. Mr. Spalding, who brought them in, remarked, the best Alton fruit had not come to St. Louis yet. Well, fetch it on; we have patronized our friends up there enough in the fruit line, to be entitled to a taste of the best.

THE NECTARINE.—At length, after years of trial, our orchardists have raised a crop of nectarines and the result is—that several of them have cut down their trees, and all have pronounced them altogether inferior to the

peach. It is, however, a great favorite with the eurolio, but we hardly think that many fruit growers will continue to cultivate it on that account.

McLean's Volcanic Oil Liniment.

THE ONLY safe and certain cure for Cancers, Piles, Tumors, Swellings and Bronchitis or Gout, Paralysis, Neuralgia, Weakness of the Muscles Chronic or Inflammatory Rheumatism, Stiffness of the Joints, Contracted Muscles or Ligaments, Ear-Ache, or Tooth-Ache, Bruises, Sprains, Wounds, fresh Cuts, Ulcers, Fever Sores, Caked Breasts, Sore Nipples, Burns, Scalds, Sore Throat, or any Inflammation or Pain, no difference how severe or how long the disease may have existed. **MCLEAN'S CELEBRATED LINIMENT** is a certain remedy.

It possesses curative powers superior to all other remedies being so chemically combined as to retain in its combination all the virtues of its several ingredients as to enable it to penetrate the minutest vessels of the body, disseminating its healing influence, removing the CAUSE of the disease, and imparting life, health, strength and vivacity to the whole system.

Thousands of human beings have been saved a life of despondence and misery by the use of this invaluable medicine.

MCLEAN'S VOLCANIC OIL LINIMENT

Will relieve pain almost instantaneously, and it will cleanse, purify and heal the foulest ulcers in an incredible short time.

Read the following certificates, which are incontrovertible proof of the WONDERFUL efficacy of this great remedy.

Mr. J. H. MCLEAN—Dear Sir: I take pleasure in adding my testimony to the wonderful efficacy of your VOLCANIC OIL LINIMENT.

I have been severely afflicted for six months with Chronic Rheumatism. I lost the use of my limbs entirely, the flesh on my arms was apparently dried up—my arms, when knocked together, would "rattle" like dried sticks. No language can describe how I suffered in this helpless condition. "Death" would have been preferable to the excruciating pains which I had to endure—till I could obtain a supply of your VOLCANIC OIL LINIMENT. The first application relieved me, and two small bottles has cured me. It has also been used by several of my neighbors for external diseases, with the same success.

MRS. MELINDA ELLIS.

P. S.—I live two doors from the corner of Morgan on Thirteenth street, St. Louis, Mo.

STILL ANOTHER CURE.

Twenty years ago I got my feet and hands frozen, from which I suffered severely every winter. I applied various remedies, but they gave me no relief. I procured one bottle of McLean's celebrated Volcanic Oil Liniment, and applied it according to directions. It has cured me permanently.

I earnestly advise every person afflicted with sores or pains to use McLean's Volcanic Oil Liniment, I believe it to be the best remedy now before the public.

W. T. DUVAL.

Firm of Duval & Campbell, Merchants.

St. Joseph, Mo., April 30, 1853

We have in our possession hundreds of such certificates, which we could publish, but we deem it unnecessary, as the use of one twenty-five cent bottle will be sufficient to convince even the most incredulous of its magic power in curing every external disease.

FOR HORSES AND OTHER ANIMALS.

McLean's Celebrated Liniment is the only safe and reliable remedy for the cure of Spavin, Ring Bone, Wind Galls, Splints, Unnatural Lumps, Nodes or Swellings. It will never fail to cure Big Head, Pollevis, Flatula, Old Running Sores, or Swenny, if properly applied. For Sprain Bruises, Scratches, Cracked Heels, Chafes, Saddle or Collar Galls, Cuts, Sores, or Wounds, it is an invaluable remedy. Apply it as directed and a cure is certain in every instance.

Directions accompanying each bottle in English and German.

This Liniment is now put up in Twenty-Five Cent, Fifty Cent, and One Dollar Bottles. The fifty cent size contains three times the quantity of the twenty-five cent size, and so on in proportion to their cost.

For sale by J. H. MCLEAN, Sole Proprietor, corner Third and Pine streets, St. Louis, Mo.

Sowing Garden Seeds in Autumn.

The practice of sowing the seeds of hardy vegetables for early spring use, at such a time of year, that they shall make considerable growth before winter, has been practiced with great success by some gardeners, particularly from lettuce, early cabbage, early onions, spinach, &c. Much of the success of some of those vegetables consists in getting a sufficiently good and vigorous growth before winter. But it often happens that the soil is suffering from the severe autumn drouths at the best time for sowing. J. Towers, a skillful English gardener, pursues the following method, which, if found useful in that humid climate, would doubtless be of much greater advantage under our parching suns. He first thoroughly soaks with a fine rose watering pot the entire space to be seeded; this is done at sun-set, and the surface covered with mats all night, and until late the next afternoon, when the watering and covering is again repeated, and so on for three successive days. By this time the soil is brought to a fine, friable, quite moist condition, when the drills are drawn, a watering given along each, the seed then sown and covered with the screened earth. Every good seed will grow without failure, and with no appearance of the unevenness so common with dry weather sowing. Superficial watering, as is commonly practiced at this season, is perfectly futile, and soaking the seed merely will be of little use. A very weak solution of guano, or of super-phosphate of lime, may be used for moistening the drills.

SIMPLE STUMP MACHINE.—A simple contrivance for removing stumps is described in a late number of the Michigan Farmer, and which was informed had taken out a hundred and forty stumps in half a day.

The contrivance is simply this:—A stiff, massive lever about twenty feet long, is placed with its thick or stronger end at the side of the stump; a chain several feet long, with links made of inch, or inch and a quarter iron, and with a long ring at one end, is then attached to the end of the pole by means of the ring, and the rest of the chain passes round the stump, and is hooked into a root or in the body. A yoke of oxen now attached to the other or smaller end of the lever, exerts an enormous power, and unless the stump is quite large will quick twist it out.

SOAP SUDS FOR WATERING PLANTS.—Nothing can be better for summer watering of plants and vines, than the suds of the weekly wash, and no one who desires a good garden will suffer it to be wasted. For cabbages, cucumbers, beets, and the like, it seems especially adapted, and one of the most thrifty grape vines we ever saw, was watered with soap suds

almost daily in dry weather. A large supply is not needed at once, but frequent waterings promote rapid and vigorous vegetation.

MANURE FOR AUTUMN ROSES.—Mr. RIVERS a famous Ros Cultorist, applies a mixture of wood ashes and guano, in the proportion of half a peck of guano to a bushel of ashes to his late roses, with most excellent effect.—About two quarts of the mixture is applied to each shrub or tree, in a circle eighteen inches in diameter around the stem, where it is suffered to remain undisturbed until autumn.—It should be applied early in June and covered with a thin grass mulch, and the effect will be that it will retain the dew and showers, and keep the tree in constant and vigorous growth, which is very necessary to the production of a good crop of flowers in the fall.

Horses on Railroad.

The demand for western horses in the East, and the great facilities now afforded for transporting them by Railroad, induces us to give in the *Intelligencer*, at least weekly, the state of the Eastern Market for these animals.

The railroads of Ohio, Indiana and Illinois in connexion with those of Pennsylvania and New York, are now carrying a number of horses (especially the more costly ones) to the Eastern Markets. Although it costs but little less at present rates, to get them to market by railroad than by foot, yet there is a great deal of time saved, and the animals arrive in excellent condition, and consequently bring better prices. A lot of 22 were recently transported by Railroad from Wayne Co., Ohio, to New York at a cost of \$15 per head. It took eight days stopping to rest and feed. The cars are expressly fitted up to carry them. Horses can now be transported from Alton to New York by Railroad with the exception of sixty miles, or they may be sent by a continuous railroad from Terra Haute to New York.

This is another evidence of the advantages of Railroads.—*St. Louis Int.*

GOOD MANNERS.—It is a vulgar notion that politeness is only required toward superiors. But the truth is, that every man ought to regard his fellow-man, or friend, as his superior, and treat him accordingly. Such feelings the real gentleman always has.

‘Let each esteem others better than himself,’ says an Apostle. This is the very soul of good manners.

He who promises rashly, will break his promise with the same ease that he made it.

You will be always reckoned by the world nearly the same character of those whose company you keep.

SAVING SEED FROM GARDEN VEGETABLES. The first vegetable peas or snap beans that appear, save for seed; the first stalk of okra that shows a pod, let it all go to seed; the first cucumber, squash or melon save for seed. In this way, we may succeed in getting much earlier vegetables than by following the usual method of taking the refuse of all our garden crops for seed. Save the earliest and best of everything for seed. Our egg plants might be brought into bearing much sooner, if we could save the first for seed. Who can stand it, with all the the long year's dearth of delicious morsels, to save the first roasting ear of tomato, that may appear for seed, and yet it would bring forward the whole crop two or three weeks earlier, it must be done. Let it be a settled maxim of the gardener—the first and best of everything for seed. *Soil of the South.*

A SAGACIOUS HORSE.—We have often heard cat and dog stories, and now have a good one about a horse. We cannot vouch for its truth, but we give it as we find it upon the authority of the New Haven Republican.

Two carriages, one double and the other single were near being destroyed with their passengers yesterday afternoon on the New York Railroad. The drivers did not see the passing train until it was close upon them. The double carriage however got over the track. The single horse had almost his forefoot upon the rail. He reared upon his hind legs and stood thus like a statue till the train passed by! It came so near him that it struck the projecting shafts and broke them, but did no other injury. We understood our informant a respectable gentleman to say that he witnessed all this.

THE WHEAT HARVEST.—The wheat harvest commenced in Northern Indiana, last week, and the fields are filled with cradlers and binders. The South Bend Register says that the crop will be a magnificent one, exceeding any ever before gathered in that county. The corn crop is coming on finely, but the oats are very light, and horses look sorrowful as they pass the sparsely filled out fields. We saw a gentleman yesterday, from La Porte, who says that the splendid farms of that town and country never looked better. The fields of wheat stretching for miles, as far as the eye can reach, and ready for the harvest, present a scene of great beauty and almost magnificence. How strange and magnificent it must seem to an Eastern farmer to read about farms of three and six thousand acres. One farmer, of La Porte, has nine hundred acres in corn, and has cut a fleece worth \$5000. This is the Prairie style of farming.

[Chicago Tribune.]

WHY LABORERS DO NOT GET AHEAD.—Nothing can be truer than Mrs. Swishelm's assertion in the Pittsburg Saturday Visitor, that it is extravagance and improvidence, and nothing else, which keep the laboring classes in the power of capital. 'The way to become independent,' continues Mrs. Swishelm, is 'for every man to live on half his wages or less, it is possible, until he buys and pays for an acre of ground fences it, builds on it a house large and close enough to shelter himself and family from a winter storm. This is his farm. Then let him take all the time he now spends in taverns and other lounging places, to lay in stores of ammunition and provisions, in the shape of useful knowledge gleaned from books and papers, and grapevines, trees, potatoes and cabbages growing in his enclosure. If he plant every foot of it with something pleasing to the eye and good for food, no tyrannical employer can starve him into any

degrading submission.' Mrs. Swishelm's article on this subject ought to be posted up on the walls of every workshop in the country.

The wife of Geo. W. Miller, formerly of Cooper Co., now of Buchanan county, gave birth to three children, two girls and one boy on the 4th of July, weighing seven pounds, each, the mother and children all doing well. What a celebration this family will have on this ever memorable day. Buchanan county against the world for domestic manufactures? Who can beat it! For the above information we are indebted to Lyman Hyde.—[St. Joseph Gazette.]

HOGS IN KENTUCKY.—Returns from fifty-seven counties in Kentucky show that there has been an increase of 123,000 hogs, over the same period last year. If all the western States have similar statistics, we may anticipate a more liberal supply of pork than has been afforded for the past year or two.

WORTH KNOWING.—Some of the papers have had a paragraph recommending the use of *wheat flour* in the case of scalds or burns. A gentleman at Dayton says that he tested it to his satisfaction. He says:

'While at the supper table, a little child which was seated in its mother's lap, suddenly grasped hold of a cup of hot tea, severely scalding its left hand and arm. I immediately brought a pan of flour, and plunged the arm into it, covering entirely the part scalded with the flour. The effect was truly remarkable—the pain was gone in an instant. I then bandaged the arm loosely, applying plenty of flour next to the skin, and on the following morning there was not the least sign that the arm had been scalded—neither did the child suffer the least pain after the application of the flour.'

Reader, do you hear these little facts to mind, if a similar occasion offers.

REMARKS.—We have ourselves experienced the soothing effects of wheat flour years ago. A watery rash broke out under the arm, the effect of heat and sweat in the field, and having nothing else at hand, we rubbed on some dry flour. It alleviated the pain at once, and as we think was the cause of its healing as it did speedily. We can readily perceive after this personal trial of its virtues, that the above statement of the Dayton gentleman is not an exaggeration.—*Ohio Farmer.*

SOME MULE.—Thomas B. Nesbit Esq., of this county, has a mule two years old, which measures 5 feet 10 inches around the girth, 7 feet around the kidneys, 1 foot 8 inches around the arm, and is 5 feet 9 inches in height, unshod. He weighs 1,150 pounds. If the stock raisers of Boone and Monroe can beat this, just pitch in, and take the horn. We won't give up the ship as long as there's a shot in the locker.

This mule was sold to Mr. A. J. Moore, of this town, for \$200.—*Fulton Telegraph.*

ST. LOUIS MARKET,

August 28, 1853.

Our market is generally dull. On account of the epidemic in New Orleans and discouraging advices in relation to business there, all demand for shipment has ceased, and what is going forward is mostly on owners account.

Flour.—The present unsettled condition of the market, quotations are almost nominal—say for superfine \$4 12½ 25; fancy and country extra \$4 25 4 50, and city extra at \$5 50 per bbl.

WHEAT.—Prime and choice white 85 87½c; prime and choice red at 80 83c; fair and good at 75 78c.

CORN.—43 and 46 cents per bushel.

BEEF, CATTLE, SHEEP, &c.—Common to good from \$5 to 5 50; and prime stock at 25 to 30c per 100 lbs. higher. Sheep, good lots range from \$2 to \$2 50; prime at 12½ and 25c per head; higher. Lambs sell at 2½ and 2 25 per head. One or two round lost sheep and lambs were taken by stippers at \$2 and 2 25 per head round. Hogs are in fair supply; small stock sell at \$4 4 25 and heavy from \$4 75 to 5 per 100 lbs. The only sales are to butchers.

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THE GRAEFENBERG MEDICINES!

THE GRAEFENBERG MEDICINES!

THE GRAEFENBERG MEDICINES!

THE GRAEFENBERG MEDICINES!

THE GRAEFENBERG MEDICINES!

Missouri Seed Store.



G. NICOL,

Wholesale and Retail Dealer in all kinds of
Farm, Flower and Garden Seeds,
GARDEN TOOLS & FARMING IMPLEMENTS,
No. 4 North Main Street, Up stairs;
ST. LOUIS, MO.

AT this establishment is kept an extensive stock and complete assortment of Garden, Farm, and Flower SEEDS from the well known establishment of David Landreth, Philadelphia, warranted fresh and genuine, crop of 1851. Market gardeners and others, putting down seeds in winter in frames, can rest assured that they will realize an abundant crop.

FARM AND OTHER SEEDS.

The stock is now complete, consisting of Clover, Timothy, Blue Grass, Red Top, Orchard Grass, Hemp, Millet, Mustard, Locust, Apple, Quince, Canary, Rape, Top Onions, &c., all fresh seed. For sale in quantities to suit, at lowest rates. Also, OSAGE ORANGE SEED, growth of 1851, direct from Texas.

GARDEN AND FLOWER SEEDS.

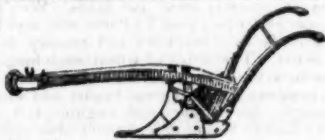
A full supply of warranted fresh and genuine Garden seeds, which we will sell at reasonable prices.

IMPLEMENTS AND MACHINES.

We will at all times keep an extensive assortment, consisting among others, of the following: Seed Sowers, Shovels, Spades, Birds and Bird Seed, clear or mixed, grass Hooks, Lawn Rakes, Hedge Shears, Bill Hooks, Bird Cages (all sizes), Sieves, Flower Pots, by the hundred, dozen, or single, Fitzgerald Patent Burr Stone Mills, Edding and Pruning Knives, Chisels and Saws, Garden Lines and Reels, &c.

Country merchants, California Emigrants, and private families supplied with the above seeds by the box, pound, ounce, or paper, on reasonable terms. One hundred boxes flower seeds, 20 varieties in each box, for \$1. Catalogues in pamphlet form furnished gratis.

Also, will receive subscriptions for the Valley Farmer. None but Landreth's warranted Garden Seeds sold here. Descriptive catalogues furnished gratis. All orders promptly executed.



Stoves and Plows.

The subscribers manufacture and keep always on hand at their warehouse, No. 203 Main street, between the Missouri and Virginia Hotels, a large assortment of the most approved patterns of premium and coal cooking Stoves, wood and coal parlor, box, air-tight, hall and coal stoves.

Also four sizes Phoenix PLOW, a superior article; ten sizes Peoria Premium Steel PLOWS, including prairie, to cut from fourteen to twenty-four inches; Pittsburgh and other plows; Iron safes; bark, corn and cob mills, double and single corn shellers; grates and castings of all descriptions, on hand and made to order, all which will be sold at the lowest prices.

KINGSLAND & FERGUSON.



J. H. LIGHTNER,

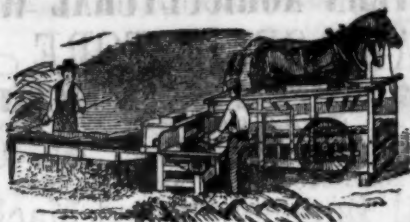


No. 88 Second street, (near) Olive & Locust,
Dealer in STOVES.

Queen of the West, Forest Queen, Bucaye, Preference and Premium Cook Stoves—also select Parlor stoves, Grates and Fenders.

PLOWS.

Moline, Peoria, Jewett, and other patterns—also, Moline PRAIRIE BREAKERS. apr52



EMERY & COMPANY'S

NEW YORK STATE AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY'S FIRST PREMIUM

CHANGEABLE RAILROAD HORSE POWER

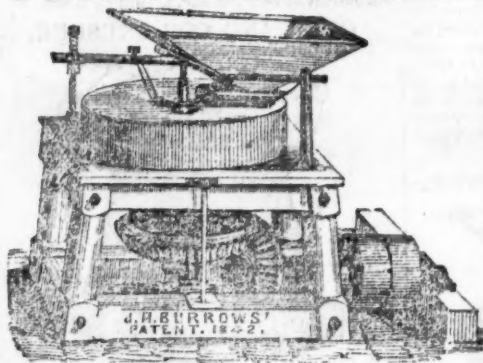
THRESHER AND SEPARATOR.

We have been agents for the above justly celebrated Machines, over three years, and can safely say they are the *best* R. R. Power now before the public. Without exception, they have given uniform satisfaction, not one having been returned, notwithstanding the warranty is broad and liberal. This Power is admirably adapted for driving THRESHERS, CIRCULAR and CROSS CUT SAWS, PUMPS, FERRY BOATS, PILE DRIVERS, GRIST and CIDER MILLS, CORN SHELLERS, HAY and STRAW CUTTERS, &c. They will admit of four variations in speed, without any change in elevation of Power, and the speed of the Horses is always the same. This is one of its principal features, which no other power possesses. The Two Horse Power, Thresher and Separator is capable, with four men, of threshing from 150 to 225 bushels of Wheat or Rye, and double that quantity of Oats per day. Price, complete, \$190 00. For further information see our Descriptive Catalogue, which we furnish gratis to applicants. We are also agents for the following Powers:

EMERY'S COMMON, OR WHEELER RACK AND PINION R. R. POWER.			
Do.	Improved Patent	Do.	Do.
Lewis' 2 and 4 Horse Lever Power and Tumbling Shaft Thresher.		Do.	
Pitts' 4 and 8	Do.	and Thresher with Cleaner.	

J. H. BURROWS'

PATENT PLANTATION GRISTMILL.



These Mills are composed of best quality French Burr Blocks, enclosed in a Cast Iron Case, to give Strength and weight to the Stone, which is indispensable in Small Mills, where the stone is run with great speed, and becomes dangerous if not strongly made. They can be run with Steam, Horse or Water Power, and do not require a Millwright to set them up, as they are already trimmed to run.

By the steady application of EMERY'S Two Horse Power, the 24 inch Geared Mill (\$150) run 240 revolutions per minute, will grind 6 to 8 bushels of good meal per hour, and will grind Wheat as well as Corn. The 30 inch Mill, if Put to its fullest speed, will grind from 10 to 15 bushels per hour.

We have been agents for these superior Mills the past year, and all have been sold to the public with a full guarantee that they are superior both in point of work and workmanship, to any other Portable Grist Mill now in use. Descriptive circular furnished gratis to applicants.

PRICES:

30 inch Stone with Fully	\$115 00	with gear	\$125 00
24 do do	135 00	do	150 00
30 do do	175 00	do	200 00

The 30 inch, with Gear, is admirably adapted to use with Saw Mills. Bolting Cloth and Belt furnished with Mills when desired, at No. 42 North Main street, St. Louis Mo., by

WM. M. PLANT & Co.

GREAT WESTERN AGRICULTURAL WAREHOUSE AND SEED STORE.

No. 14 NORTH MAIN STREET,

(Bet. Market and Chestnut sts.)

ALFRED LEE & CO.,

WHOLESALE AND RETAIL DEALERS IN

**Agricultural Implements and Machines, and
GARDEN, GRASS AND OTHER SEEDS.**

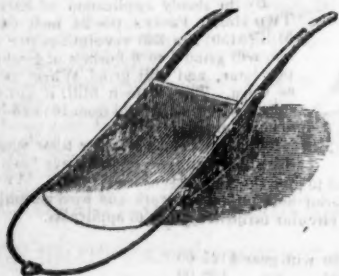
PORTABLE MILL.



The above cut represents a double geared 'Queen of the South' Corn Mill, manufactured by Isaac Straub & Co., Cincinnati, O., for which we are the only agent in this city.

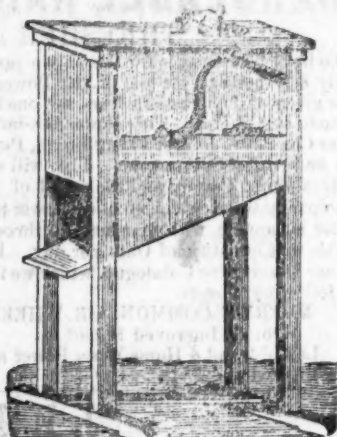
These Mills are manufactured single and double geared, (with the best quality of French Burrs,) to grind Corn and Wheat, or stock feeds; calculated for Steam, Water or Horse Power. They have taken the first premiums in numerous State Fairs in Ohio, and are warranted to be superior to any other portable mill hitherto offered in the west. We invite the attention of the public to these mills, and ask for them a fair trial. We will furnish the manufacturer's pamphlet gratis to applicants.

IRON DIRT SCRAPER, OR OX-SHOVEL.



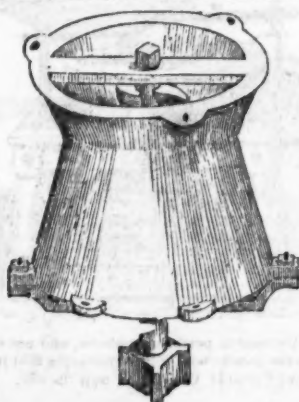
This is an important improvement upon the old fashioned wooden scraper, and is useful for road making, digging cellars, &c.

CORN SHELLER.



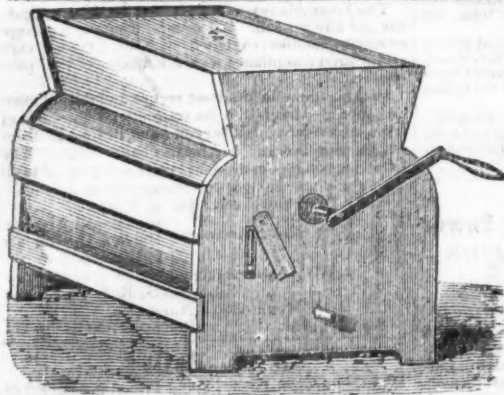
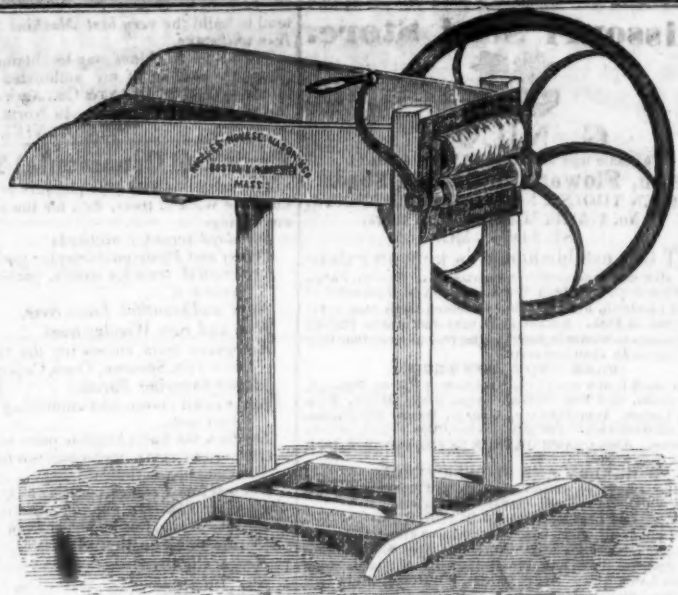
Of various kinds and sizes; some to used with power. These Shellers will shell, readily, from from 125 to 500 bushels of ears per day, according to size.

CORN AND COB CRUSHER.



This cut represents an improved Corn and Cob Crusher; it is also suitable for all kinds of grain, Oil Cake, Barks, Roots and Herbs; Charcoal, for rectifying, &c. It will crush from 12 to 15 bushels of Corn and Cob per hour with two horse power.

HAY, STRAW, AND CORN STALK CUTTERS.
All sizes and various kinds, constantly on hand.



THERMOMETER CHURNS.

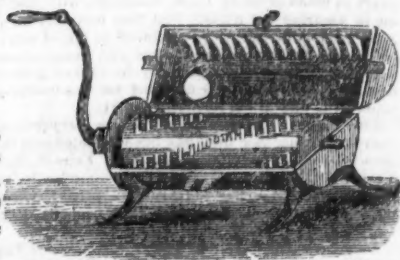
This excellent invention is too well known to need further description here.

We have only to say to farmers and others, try it, and depend upon it, you will be only too glad you bought it.

We keep them holding from 2½ to 30 gallons.

IRON SAUSAGE MEAT CUTTER, (When open.)

This is a valuable labor-saving machine, which, being constructed entirely of iron is durable, and can be kept sweet and clean. One man can cut easily, and will, from 80 to 100 pounds of meat per hour with. We also keep on hand the stuffers.



REMEMBER THE

Great Western Agricultural Warehouse & Seed Store.

No. 14 NORTH MAIN ST., (bet. Market & Chestnut sts.)

Missouri Seed Store.



G. NICOL,

Wholesale and Retail Dealer in all kinds of
Farm, Flower and Garden Seeds,
GARDEN TOOLS & FARMING IMPLEMENTS,
No. 4 North Main Street, Up stairs,
ST. LOUIS, MO.

AT this establishment is kept an extensive stock and complete assortment of Garden, Farm, and Flower SEEDS from the well known establishment of David Landreth, Philadelphia, warranted fresh and genuine, crop of 1851. Market gardeners and others, putting down seeds in winter in frames, can rest assured that they will realize an abundant crop.

FARM AND OTHER SEEDS.

The stock is now complete, consisting of Clover, Timothy, Blue Grass, Red Top, Orchard Grass, Hemp, Millet, Mustard, Locust, Apple, Quince, Canary, Rape, Top Onions, &c., all fresh seed. For sale in quantities to suit, at lowest rates. Also, OSAGE ORANGE SEED, growth of 1851, direct from Texas.

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PITT'S

Patent Separator and Horse Power

MANUFACTURED BY NATHANIEL HANSON.

Alton, Illinois

The subscriber is happy to inform his old friends, and all who may be in want of a SUPERIOR MACHINE FOR THRESHING AND CLEANING GRAIN at one operation, that he is prepared to furnish machines to order. Having been engaged during the last thirteen years in manufacturing these machines, will justify me in assuring my friends that they may rely on as good a machine as can be produced in the country. As he erected last season a large and commodious shop, for the exclusive purpose, he flatters himself that he has facilities for carrying on this business, superior to any in the western country.

Pitt's Patent Separator has proved itself superior to every other machine that has been invented—as the premiums awarded to it at the State Fairs in New York and Ohio for the last ten years abundantly testify—invariably taking the first premiums! Other testimonials from almost every State from Maine to California can be produced in its favor.

I shall also manufacture Pitt's Patent Double Pinion Power, as well as the old Single Pinion Power so favorably known through Illinois, as the Alton Power.

In conclusion the public may rest assured that I in

tend to build the very best Machine that wood and iron will make.

The above Machines may be obtained either at my Shop in Alton, or of my authorized Agents in St. Louis.—WM. M. PLANT & Co., Agricultural Warehouse and Seed Store, No. 12 North Main Street.

NATHANIEL HANSON.

Fruit and Ornamental Trees, &c.

The subscriber has the pleasure of announcing an immense stock of trees, &c., for the autumn trade—embracing

Standard trees for orchards.

Dwarf and Pyramidal trees for gardens.

Ornamental trees for streets, parks, and pleasure grounds.

Rare and beautiful Lawn trees.

New and rare Weeping trees.

Evergreen trees, embracing the rarest species of

Pines, Firs, Spruces, Yews, Cedars, Junipers, &c.

Hardy flowering Shrubs.

Roses of all classes and embracing the newest and best sorts.

Dahlias, the finest English prize sorts.

Chrysanthemums, including the finest of the new Pampero varieties.

Phloxes and Peonies, superb collections.

Bedding Plants, a complete assortment.

Bulbous Roots, just imported from Holland and of the finest quality.

Hedge Plants.

Box Edging.

Rhubarb, Asparagus, &c., &c.

The favorable season has given everything a vigorous and fine growth. All orders whether for large or small quantities executed with the greatest care and in strict compliance with the wishes of the purchaser.

Packing done in the most secure and skillful manner, so that parcels can be transmitted thousands of miles with safety. Nurserymen and dealers in trees will be supplied on the most liberal terms. The following catalogues are sent gratis and prepaid to all who apply and enclose one postage stamp for each:

- | | |
|-------|---------------------------------------|
| No. 1 | Descriptive catalogue of Fruits, |
| 2 | " " " ornamental trees &c. |
| 3 | " " " Dahlias, Greenhouse Plants, &c. |

4 Wholesale catalogue.

ELLWANGER & BARRY.

Mount Hope Nurseries,

Sept. 1st 1853.

Rochester, New York.

S. H. Bailey,

Manufacturer of Candy, Sugar Plums and Lozenges,
Cor. Second and Pine streets, St. Louis, Mo.

AT the above place, can be found a large assortment of everything in the line, suitable for country dealers, for whom it is expressly made.

This establishment is doing a large business which is constantly increasing, a fact which sufficiently attests the quality and reputation of the articles manufactured, and purchasers are assured that no pains will be spared to give them continual satisfaction.



J. H. LIGHTNER,

No. 88 Second street, (near) Olive & Locust,

Dealer in STOVES.

Queen of the West, Forest Queen, Buceye, Preference and Premium Cook Stoves—also select Parlor stoves, Grates and Fenders.

PLOWS.

Moline, Peoria, Jewett, and other patterns—also, Moline PRAIRIE BREAKERS.

